Madras Institute of Development Studies

ANNUAL REPORT 2019-2020

Jointly funded by

ICSSR

Madras Institute of Development Studies

ANNUAL REPORT

2019-2020

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Annual Report 2019–2020 covers the financial year 1 April 2019 to 31 March 2020. Annual reports of the past covered the respective academic years (July to June).

Front Cover: Harvesting in Vinayagapuram, Vandavasi Taluk, Tiruvannamalai District, Tamil Nadu. Photo by Yadu C.R.

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1. Mission

Malcolm S. Adiseshiah and Elizabeth Adiseshiah founded the Madras Institute of Development Studies (MIDS) in 1971 with the following objectives:

- To undertake studies and research pertaining to development problems with special reference to the agro-rural aspects of Tamil Nadu, and the problems of the economically and socially backward sections of the population throughout the country.
- To conduct seminars and conferences on development problems and programmes of Tamil Nadu.
- To foster inter-university cooperation among social scientists of the universities of the four southern states.
- To promote interdisciplinary research and bring out publications relating to the above three functions.

In 1977, MIDS was reconstituted as a National Institute jointly funded by the Indian Council of Social Science Research (New Delhi) and the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The research foci of the faculty are wide ranging, from the concerns of development economics, such as agriculture, rural development, industry, urbanisation, and labour, to interdisciplinary areas, such as gender, environment, human development, social and political movements, and social criticism.

Through its seminars and workshops, MIDS has become a centre for critical thinking on development issues relating to Tamil Nadu in particular and India in general. The services of faculty members are sought by state and central government departments, autonomous agencies, universities and colleges, and non-governmental and international organisations.

2. Governing Council

Ex-officio Chairperson	**K.L. Krishna** Chairperson, MIDS
Representatives of Government of Tamil Nadu (GOTN)	**Additional Chief Secretary** Finance Department, GOTN, Secretariat, Chennai
	Additional Chief Secretary Planning, Development & Special Initiatives Department, GOTN, Secretariat, Chennai
Representatives of the Indian Council of Social Science Research (ICSSR)	**Member–Secretary** ICSSR, JNU Institutional Area, Aruna Asaf Ali Marg, New Delhi
	P. Kanagasabapathi Nominee of ICSSR
Representatives of four Southern Universities	**Saji Gopinath** (from August 2019) Director, Indian Institute of Information Technology and Management–Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram
	Phanindra Goyari (from August 2019) Professor, School of Economics, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad
	S. Pushparaj (from August 2019) Head, Department of Econometrics, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai
	T.S. Somashekar (from August 2019) Professor, National Law School of India University, Bengaluru

Co-opted Social Scientists	**Pami Dua** (from August 2019) Director, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi
	Sugata Marjit (from August 2019) Distinguished Professor, Indian Institute of Foreign Trade and RBI Chair, Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata
Trustees	**V. Vasanthi Devi** (up to December 2019) Former Vice-Chancellor, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University
	C.T. Kurien Former Chairperson, MIDS
	P.V. Rajaraman Former Finance Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu
	K.P. Sivasubramaniam (up to September 2019) Retired Judge of Madras High Court
Representatives of Faculty	**L. Venkatachalam** (from August 2019)
	M. Vijayabaskar (from August 2019)
Ex-officio Member–Secretary	**P.G. Babu** Director, MIDS

3. MIDS Trust

Ex-officio Chairperson

K.L. Krishna
Chairperson, MIDS

Members

V. Vasanthi Devi
(up to December 2019)
Former Vice-Chancellor,
Manonmaniam Sundaranar University

C.T. Kurien
Former Chairperson, MIDS

P.V. Rajaraman
Former Finance Secretary,
Government of Tamil Nadu

Ajit Ranade
(from January 2020)
President & Chief Economist, Aditya Birla Group

M. Govinda Rao
(from December 2019)
Member, 14th Finance Commission

Bader Sayeed
Advocate

K.P. Sivasubramaniam
(up to September 2019)
Retired Judge of Madras High Court

A. Vaidyanathan
Former Member, Planning Commission

Girija Vaidyanathan
(from December 2019)
Former Chief Secretary, Government of Tamil Nadu

Ex-officio Invitee

P.G. Babu
Director, MIDS

4. Academic Council

Ex-officio Chairperson	**P.G. Babu** Director, MIDS
External Members	**S. Chandrasekhar** Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai
	Bhangya Bhukya Department of History, School of Social Sciences, University of Hyderabad, Hyderabad
	Malathy Duraisamy Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai
	Ram Singh Department of Economics, Delhi School of Economics, University of Delhi, Delhi
MIDS Faculty	**S. Anandhi** **Kripa Ananthpur** **Shesadri Banerjee** **Karen Coelho** **Ananta Kumar Giri** **K. Jafar** **A. Kalaiyarasan** **C. Lakshmanan** **Ajit Menon** **Krishanu Pradhan** **K. Sivasubramaniyan** **M. Umanath** **L. Venkatachalam** **A.R. Venkatachalapathy** **M. Vijayabaskar**
MIDS Student Representative	**Jijin P.**

5. Academic Staff

S. Anandhi, Professor	• Gender; Caste; Identity politics.
Kripa Ananthpur, Associate Professor	• Civil society and governance; Local institutions; Local governance; Farmers' movements; Women's political participation in local governance.
P.G. Babu, Professor & Director	• Microeconomic theory; Game theory; Environmental and natural resource economics; Law and economics; Politics, philosophy and economics, and their applications.
Shesadri Banerjee, Assistant Professor	• Macroeconomic modelling; Business cycles; Inflation dynamics; Fiscal and monetary policies; Time series econometrics.
Karen Coelho, Associate Professor	• Urban anthropology; Urban studies; State reforms; Urban water management and ecologies; Affordable housing; Slums and resettlement.
Ananta Kumar Giri, Professor	• Social movements and social transformation; Social theory; Criticism; Creativity.
K. Jafar, Assistant Professor	• Education and development; Migration; Financial inclusion; Local planning; Informality; Intellectual property rights; Gender.
A. Kalaiyarasan, Assistant Professor	• Labour markets and their link with poverty and inequality; Regional political economy in India.
K.L. Krishna, Chairperson	• Econometrics (Methodology and Applications); Industrial economics; Economics of productivity; Regional inequality; Empirics of trade.
C. Lakshmanan, Associate Professor	• Political theory and culture; Political economy; Dravidian politics; Subordinated social groups/ movement; Governance; Film studies.
Ajit Menon, Professor	• Political ecology; Environmental politics; Environmental history; Agrarian studies.

Krishanu Pradhan, Assistant Professor
- Public debt and fiscal sustainability; Banking sector NPAs; Macroeconomics; National accounts statistics.

K. Sivasubramaniyan, Professor
- Agriculture; Water management; Irrigation; Irrigation institutions; Rural development; Village studies; Coastal environment management; Pollution problems.

M. Umanath, Assistant Professor
- Agricultural production; Natural resource management; Institutional arrangement for sustainable development.

L. Venkatachalam, Professor & RBI Chair
- Environmental economics; Ecological economics; Behavioural economics; Institutional economics.

A.R. Venkatachalapathy, Professor
- Social and political change; Social history; Cultural history; Intellectual history.

M. Vijayabaskar, Professor
- Political economy of regional development; Agrarian change; Rural–urban interactions; Industrialisation; Value chains; Labour processes.

6. Non-Academic Staff

Administration

Administrative Officer	T.R. Ramakrishnan
Assistant	E. Lakshmanakumar
Junior Assistants	V. Mohan
	N. Cibi
	C. Anitha
	S. Karpagam
	R. Sumathi
Drivers	P. Pargunan
	S. Srinath
Record Clerk	A. Sampathkumar
Sweeper	K. Pencilamma

Finance

Finance Officer	K.R. Ramadurai
Senior Assistant	S. Thirupurasundari
Junior Assistant	B. Azhagarsami

Information Technology

System Analyst	R. Dharumaperumal
System Assistant	P. Thyagarajan

Library

Librarian	R. Murugan
Library Assistants	A. Tamil Selvi
	G. Murugan
	S. Ramakrishnan

Publication

Publication Officer	Ashok R. Chandran (from 13-05-2019)
Publication Assistant	A. Arivazhagan

7. Research Scholars

Full-Time

Scholar	Research Topic	Guide
Jijin P.	Migration and Remittances	M. Vijayabaskar
Simi Mariya Thomas	Experimental Economics	L. Venkatachalam
Brinda G. Krishnan	Supply Chains and Local Ecology	M. Vijayabaskar
Muhammad Shafeeque Aliparambil	Institutional Interventions and Transaction Costs in Agriculture: A Study of the Weekly Market Programme in Kerala	L. Venkatachalam
Boddu Srujana	Segmentation in Urban Informal Labour Markets	M. Vijayabaskar
Titu Mahanta	Globalisation and Small Tea Plantation Economy	M. Vijayabaskar
Anee Bhattacharyya	Structural and Everyday Discrimination Against Transgenders in India	Karen Coelho and C. Lakshmanan
Rituparna Borah	Ecotourism and Sustainable Development in India	Ajit Menon and S. Kalavathi (Queen Mary's College, Chennai)
Anjaly Baby	Poverty: A Behavioural Economics Approach	L. Venkatachalam
Firsha V.	Spirit Possession among Muslim Women in Kerala	A.R. Venkatachalapathy
Pema Choden Bhutia	Ecotourism and Development: With Special Reference to Sikkim	L. Venkatachalam
Rahul Reghu	Contemporary Land Question in Kerala	Ajit Menon and C. Lakshmanan
G. Elayaraja	A Study of Rural Non-Farm Employment in India with Special Reference to Tamil Nadu	K. Sivasubramaniyan
Sankara Pandi K.	Migration and Urbanisation: Its Impact on People and Their Socio-Economic Mobility	K. Sivasubramaniyan

Scholar	Research Topic	Guide
Arun Bharathy J.	Rural Livelihood Diversification Strategies in a Transitional Economy: A Case Study of Tamil Nadu	M. Vijayabaskar
S. Balamurugan	Payment for Ecosystem Services for Wetlands Management	L. Venkatachalam
D. Chandrasekar	Dalits and Access to Common Property Resources	Ajit Menon
Safwan Amir	Kerala Muslim Barbers: An Ethnographic and Historical Approach	A.R. Venkatachalapathy
G. Surabhi	Contract Farming in South India	Ajit Menon
R. Saravanakumar	Development Interventions in Indian Rainfed Agriculture: Analysis of Institutions and Processes	M. Vijayabaskar
Andrew Michael S.	Impact of MGNREGS on Rural Development	Kripa Ananthpur and John Sundar David (VIT University, Vellore)
S. Suriya	Gender and the Hindu Marriage Reform: A Case Study of Legalising Self-Respect Marriage in Tamil Nadu	S. Anandhi
S. Kokilavani	Propaganda and Second World War in Madras Presidency (1939–1945)	A.R. Venkatachalapathy
R. Sethunath	Educational Policy Analysis: A Study of Kerala	Karen Coelho
K. Bharathidasan	Recovering Outcaste History: A Case Study of Arunthathiyars in Colonial Tamil Nadu	S. Anandhi
V. Suresh	Economic Analysis of Decentralisation in Tamil Nadu	L. Venkatachalam

Part-Time

Scholar	Research Topic	Guide
R. Manivasagan	Poverty and Nutrition	D. Jayaraj
V. Jegatheesan	Peri Urban Development and Sustainability: The Case of Chennai City in Tamil Nadu	K. Sivasubramaniyan
Muhammed Aslam E.S.	Social History of Mappila Muslims	S. Anandhi
Bibhuti Bhusan Pradhan	Economic Analysis of Internal Migration	M. Vijayabaskar

Non-Stipendary

Scholar	Research Topic	Guide
Gargi Sridharan	Gross Household Happiness	L. Venkatachalam
N.R. Somasekhara	Tobacco Control and Policy	L. Venkatachalam

Thesis Submitted

Scholar	Research Topic	Guide
* A. Bhavana	Special Economic Zones: Contributions and Controversies	G.S. Ganesh Prasad
E. Deepa	Gender and Informal Sector: A Case Study on Women Domestic Workers in Chennai City	S. Anandhi
K.V. Preetha	Dynamics and Politics of Environmental Clearance (EC) Process: An Analysis of EC in Selected Developmental Projects in Tamil Nadu	Ajit Menon
Aparajay Kumar Singh	Distributional Analysis of Group Differentials Relating to Deprivation and Achievement	D. Jayaraj

* Submitted in 2016

8. Director's Report

Last year's report emphasised that for an academic institute, five things are important: (i) Research activities, (ii) Academic programmes, (iii) Capacity-building activities, (iv) Outreach and dissemination, and (v) Its internal physical and administrative infrastructure. The current report traces major academic steps taken during 2019–20.

MIDS, a unique social science institution located in South India, involved in research, teaching, and training on development issues from an interdisciplinary perspective, is about to celebrate its Golden Jubilee in 2021–22. A National Institute, MIDS supports the formulation of planning for regional and national governments, and publishes in English and Tamil on multiple issues of development. Apart from its PhD programme, MIDS also trains other scholars through its annual methodology workshops, and regular national and international conferences on different development themes. Apart from teaching in other institutions, faculty members also undertake research in a comparative perspective through institutional collaborations. MIDS has been recognised by the Government of Tamil Nadu to incubate and develop a Centre of Excellence in Social Sciences (COESS) to nurture excellence in the social sciences, given the relatively poor state of social science teaching and research in southern India.

Long-Term Academic Collaborations

Realising many synergies and complementarities in the goals of the Humanities across Borders (HaB) programme led by International Institute of Asian Studies (IIAS, Leiden) and funded by the Mellon Foundation and MIDS, the HaB consortium invited MIDS to be a partner to the second round of funding of the said programme by the Mellon Foundation. Some of the collaborative activities with HaB (Activities 1 and 2 below) are in experimental stage and could serve as templates as HaB moves into the second phase and MIDS contemplates its next 50 years.

Activity 1: Possibility of HaB support for the annual Social Sciences Winter School in collaboration with French Institute of Pondicherry and MIDS, to train graduate students on methodological and cross-cutting approaches in social science research and to foster a cross-border research community through the creation of an academic network of researchers.

Activity 2: Possibility of HaB support for the MIDS and Kenyon College Yearly Writing Workshops.

Activity 3: One-year/two-year Post-Masters/Masters/Diploma Programme that would train a new generation of 'Generalists with Special Skills' who would be able to analyse and address multidimensional development issues. This programme aims to be *unique*:

- By combining relevant tools from interpretative and positivist traditions to address multidimensional development problems.
- By developing practical skills through two summers of intense field training to provide hands on, problem-solving experience for students, one each in India and Africa.
- By creating a South–South learning environment, with Western professionalism and Southern sensibilities to meet the problems of a rapidly changing world.
- By bringing together the complementarities of HaB partners, for which there is a lot of potential interest within the proposed HaB consortium.

Activity 4: Specialised international workshops on HaB themes, such as comparative histories of regional trading and producing communities, such as Chettinadu, Social and Food Justice, Material Culture, Comparative Archaeology, and Political Ecology of Care.

MIDS was invited to be part of the workshop at Chiang Mai (Thailand), during February 2020, towards preparation of the proposal for HaB Second Round funding by Mellon Foundation. Subsequently, the proposal has been submitted by potential consortium partners from around the world, particularly Asia, Africa, and Latin America, led by IIAS Leiden.

MIDS and Kenyon College (Ohio, USA) have started a long-term collaboration in designing and conducting Yearly Writing Workshops to provide an opportunity for activists and scholars to critically think about and translate their experiences and embedded knowledge and practices into alternate pedagogies and entry points for research. As a follow up, the President of Kenyon College visited MIDS on 6 March 2020 to explore long-term collaboration with the Institute in areas such as writing workshops. We conducted one such workshop in December 2019 as a joint activity between Kenyon College, MIDS, and IIAS Leiden.

MIDS has initiated a long-term collaboration with the French Institute of Pondicherry for yearly Winter Schools on Topics of Development, whose theme would vary from year to year. The purpose is to train doctoral and post-doctoral scholars on methodological and cross-cutting approaches for research on complex issues. It will help build research capacity and provide everyone with opportunities for knowledge transfer, experience sharing, and new research ideas. It is a template for South–South cooperation infused with European and international experiences

through the creation of an academic network of researchers in related areas. The idea is to consolidate a community of young research scholars in India, to begin with. It is designed to invite around 80 participants per winter school from all around India and abroad. It boasts an international team of trainers with local Indo–French team of organisers. Typical themes thus far have been 'Health and Societal Challenges', 'Mobility and Social Dynamics', 'Water and Socio-Environmental Challenges', 'Labour and Development', and 'Heritage, Communities, Sustainability'.

Capacity Building: Short Courses and Special Lectures

This year, we initiated 'MIDS short courses', to build capacity in the areas of Economics and Finance, aimed at students and faculty from various Chennai colleges and University. It is open to all who are excited about and willing to put in the hard work to learn Economics, spoken with the language of Mathematics. Often there is a complaint that in most parts of India, Economics is never taught the way it should be. It could be a result of social preference for Engineering, Medicine, and Science. This lecture series attempts to provide an opportunity to all to try out modern Economics. We are open to students, researchers, practitioners, and faculty. We are also open to people from other disciplines and walks of life, as long as they are comfortable with higher-secondary-level mathematics and are excited about Economics. This is part of the MIDS outreach programme and hence is free. Those who complete a lecture series get a certificate.

The first short course, on 'Decision Theory', was offered by the Director. It received an overwhelming response—around 91 students and faculty registered for the five-lecture course. After three lectures, however, we were forced to pause this course due to the onset of the Covid-19 pandemic. Once we resume, those who successfully complete all the lectures will get a certificate. This will be followed by other courses, such as on Behavioural Economics by Professor L. Venkatachalam.

By a stroke of luck, we managed to keep our commitment to the schedule of the 'National Seminar on Union Budget 2020–21' on 13 March 2020, with leading scholars from around the country making incisive presentations at MIDS. The parallel seminar on the State Budget, scheduled for 20 March, unfortunately had to be cancelled on account of a pandemic advisory.

Chairperson Professor K.L. Krishna invited Professor Gita Gopinath to deliver the Founder's Day Lecture, offering her a flexible schedule. He also approved the invite to Professor Chetan Subramanian (Indian Institute of Management Bangalore), as a visiting fellow at MIDS. Unfortunately, due to pandemic conditions, these important events in MIDS calendar have been postponed until normalcy returns.

PhD Progamme

Relook at the Admission Process: The PhD admissions process was discussed thoroughly in a series of faculty as well as PhD Committee meetings. Consequently, the admission process was started early (to meet the requirements of July entry point of University of Madras) to attract scholarship/fellowship holders.

Periodic Evaluation of Thesis Work: The PhD committee revamped the process of assessing the performance of the students based on their biannual review presentations, which included Doctoral Committee members and external subject experts with respect to (i) their progress over the previous six months; (ii) content/ quality of presentation; and (iii) communication / interaction with the discussant / audience during the presentation and Q & A session. Following the observations made by the PhD committee, faculty have come up with suggestions and an action plan to improve the curriculum of our PhD programme.

The Looming Pandemic

Throughout March 2020, a sense of foreboding about an imminent international pandemic crisis enveloped the world, and MIDS could not be an exception in that ocean of gloom. As pointed out, several of our important calendar events had to be cancelled on account of it. We sincerely hope that the MIDS academic community would be able to fulfil its research promise during the forthcoming lockdown period despite the uncertainty surrounding such once-in-a-century event. It is strange to recollect that at the Union Budget seminar on 13 March 2020 we were debating the positive and negative 'corona' (as it was called then) effects on India. Little we knew then that the (soon to become) 'Covid-19' pandemic would in a matter of days engulf us all for months together in a crisis which might prove to be worse than the Great Depression.

9. Research Projects

Completed Projects

Project	Funding Agency	Project Director(s)
Boundary Spanning and Intermediation for Urban Regeneration: Comparative Case Studies from 3 Indian Cities	ICSSR, New Delhi	Amita Bhide and Karen Coelho (collaborative study of Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Centre for Policy Research, and MIDS)
Evidence Toward Affordable Housing Policies: The Case of Chennai	Tamil Nadu State Land Use Research Board	Karen Coelho
Mapping Vulnerability and Social Protection in Tamil Nadu: An Analysis of E-mathi Database and Field Study	UNICEF, Chennai	K. Jafar
Structural Transformation, Regional Disparity and Institutional Reforms in Agriculture	National Institute of Agricultural Economics and Policy Research, New Delhi	M. Umanath and L. Venkatachalam
Towards a Relational Approach to Agency for Mapping Pathways Into and Out of Poverty	Economic & Social Research Council (United Kingdom)	Ajit Menon and M. Vijayabaskar

Ongoing Projects

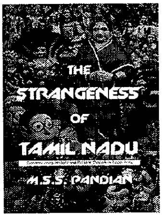
Project	Funding Agency	Project Director(s)
Becoming a Young Farmer: Pathways of Young People into Farming	Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council, Canada	M. Vijayabaskar
Coastal Transformation and Fisher Wellbeing: Synthesized Perspectives from India and Europe	ICSSR, New Delhi, under EU–India Platform for the Social Sciences and Humanities Call for Collaborative Research: Sustainability, Equity, Wellbeing and Cultural Connections	Ajit Menon

Project	Funding Agency	Project Director(s)
Dalits and the Making of the Public Sphere in Colonial Tamil Nadu: A Documentation of *Tamilan*, 1907–1914	ICSSR SC–ST Component for 2016–17 (One-time grant by MIDS)	A.R. Venkatachalapathy
Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Service: A Study of 80 Prioritized Wetlands in Tamil Nadu	Tamil Nadu State Land Use Research Board	L. Venkatachalam
Tamil Nadu Household Panel Survey	Planning, Development and Special Initiatives Department, Government of Tamil Nadu	Kripa Ananthpur, L. Venkatachalam, and K. Jafar
* A Review of the Challenges in School-to-Work Transition among Adolescents and Youth in Tamil Nadu	UNICEF, Chennai	M. Vijayabaskar and K. Jafar
* Social Sciences and the Regional Imaginations of India	MIDS (Faculty Research Grant)	Ananta Kumar Giri
* South Asia Rural Livelihoods Programs: Lessons from the Past as Guide to the Future	The World Bank, New Delhi	Kripa Ananthpur (lead researcher for the qualitative study in Tamil Nadu)
* Yearly MIDS—French Institute of Pondicherry Social Sciences Winter School	various French agencies	P. G. Babu

* Began in 2019–20

10. Faculty Publications

Books



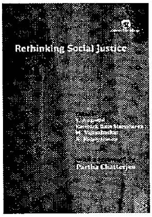
S. ANANDHI
(co-editor)

The Strangeness of Tamil Nadu
Contemporary History and
Political Culture in South India
by M.S.S. Pandian
Permanent Black, New Delhi
2019

In this book, the writings of Pandian, organised chronologically with thematic sections, mainly critically reflect on Periyar E.V. Ramasamy's Dravidian ideology: linguistic identity, state politics, religion, and caste.

Periyar's ideas are radically progressive but ignored by secular progressives including the Indian left. His ideas have nevertheless been embraced by the downtrodden low castes, i.e., Dalits, across India, who appreciate Periyar against all odds.

Pandian's articles reflect how Periyar's ideas still provide productive standards for critical analysis of political practice in India. The importance of this message reverberates through all his chapters that we have put together here.

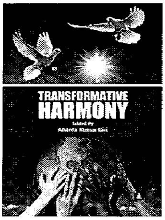


S. ANANDHI, M. VIJAYABASKAR, & A. KALAIYARASAN
(co-editors)

Rethinking Social Justice
Orient Blackswan, Hyderabad
2020

The discourse of social justice has been much contested in India ever since the time of the Mandal Commission report. Nearly four decades on, debates on culture and identity remain strong. Rather than studying the concept of social justice in isolation, in distinct social, political, or economic terms, *Rethinking Social Justice* offers a more transdisciplinary approach to envisioning a just society that encompasses the intersecting issues of caste, capital, nationalism, gender, region, urban planning, and visual representation.

Divided into five broad thematic sections—Politics of Culture and Identity; Critical Social History; Nation and the Region; Political Economy; and Cinema and Society—this volume brings together perspectives from across disciplines to rethink the question of social justice, in the process opening up a view of the panorama of Indian politics.



ANANTA KUMAR GIRI (editor)

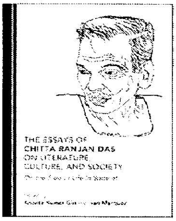
Transformative Harmony

Studera, Delhi

2019

Harmony is a foundation and horizon of our life. But many a time it is locked up in structures of domination and closure. *Transformative Harmony* interrogates and transforms this condition and makes harmony a part of our multidimensional movements of critique, creativity, and transformations. It is a practice and movement for the realisation of beauty, dignity and dialogues in self, culture, society and cosmos.

Though harmony is part of our life, modern social science discourses have not engaged themselves with it. *Transformative Harmony*, probably for the first time, offers a multidimensional and transdisciplinary engagement with the vision, project, and challenges of harmony in self, society, culture, and the world, with more than 50 contributors coming from different knowledge, cultural, and national backgrounds.



ANANTA KUMAR GIRI (co-editor)

The Essays of Chitta Ranjan Das on Literature, Culture and Society

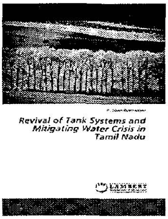
On the Side of Life In Spite Of

Cambridge Scholars Press, New Castle upon Tyne

2020

This volume brings together the essays of Chitta Ranjan Das (1923–2011), a creative experimenter and writer, on literature, culture, life, and the human condition. It presents a different vision and version of the post-colonial imagination and social and literary criticism which is rooted in soil, soul, and cosmos.

While a majority of post-colonial discourse is still predominantly metropolitan, giving us very little discussion on creative endeavours in different language spaces of India and the world, this book presents radical new pathways and creative collaborations which break conventional boundaries between the periphery and the centre, literature and life, mother languages and metropolitan languages, and East and West. It offers a new archaeology of knowledge as a regenerative archaeology of life where knowledge, action, and devotion come together for new explorations and transformations.



K. SIVASUBRAMANIYAN

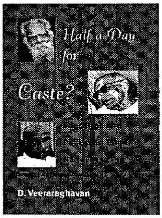
Revival of Tank Systems and Mitigating Water Crisis in Tamil Nadu

LAP LAMBERT Academic Publishing
2019

Agriculture is the backbone of our Indian economy. For prosperity of agriculture, irrigation is the base. There are two types of irrigation widespread in most of the states of India—surface irrigation (canals and tanks) and groundwater. Although the latter source depends upon the former sources, the actual situation indicates that well irrigation has been increasing steadily and tank irrigation has declined heavily. Why is this paradox happening all over India?

The book seeks important reasons for this decline in the context of Tamil Nadu. The data indicate that there is a persistent decline of tank irrigation since the 1970s both in India as well as in Tamil Nadu. Before independence, tank irrigation system was the major source of irrigation in many of the Indian states. Even now, in some districts of Tamil Nadu, the contribution of tanks to irrigated agriculture is appreciable.

The book investigates (i) the reasons for the decline of tank irrigation in Tamil Nadu, based on the studies available and also from the experience gained from the IAMWARM (Irrigated Agriculture Modernisation and Water Bodies Restoration and Management) Project; and (ii) how to revive this tank source to its previous position, increase the irrigated area by this source, and remove drinking water problem in the state.



A.R. VENKATACHALAPATHY (editor)

Half a Day for Caste

Education and Politics in Tamilnadu, 1952–55

by D. Veeraraghavan

LeftWord, New Delhi

2019

In 1953, Chief Minister C. Rajagopalachari (Rajaji) introduced 'The Modified Scheme of Elementary Education' in rural schools in the then Madras State. Based on the Gandhian model of Basic Education, it proposed half-a-day schooling for rural children with half a day devoted to training in the parents' traditional craft. Dubbed as *'Kula Kalvi Thittam'* ('casteist education scheme') by its detractors, both within the ruling Congress party and by the Dravidar Kazhagam and the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam, the scheme ignited a political storm. While eminent experts from across the country were roped in to assess the scheme, there were massive protests in Tamil Nadu against it. Within a year the Rajaji government fell, and his tenure in the seat of political power ended. The controversy led to the rise of K. Kamaraj, who transitioned from a provincial to national 'kingmaker'.

This book, based on a rich variety of sources, provides a perspicacious narrative combined with an astute analysis of the social and political processes underlying the controversy.

A.R. VENKATACHALAPATHY

***Dravidar Iyakkamum Vellalarum*, 1927–44**

Kalachuvadu Pathippagam, Nagercoil

2019

This book explores the social base of the Dravidian Movement during the Self-Respect movement phase (1927–1944). Taking issue with existing historiography that it was a movement of landholding upper castes, this book argues that, during the Self-Respect phase, the Dravidian movement's changed agenda vis-a-vis caste and religion, brought it in conflict with the narrow social base that characterised the Non-Brahmin movement under the Justice Party.

This book is based on a huge body of largely unused source material that includes contemporary journals, diaries, pamphlets, and correspondence. This is the silver jubilee edition of a widely cited book and has been thoroughly revised.

Contributions to Books

S. ANANDHI

(with David Ludden) **Editor's Introduction**, in M.S.S. Pandian, *Strangeness of Tamil Nadu: Contemporary History and Political Culture in South India* (edited by S. Anandhi and David Ludden), New Delhi: Permanent Black, 2019.

(with co-editors) **Introduction: The Legacy of a Dravidian Scholar**, in S. Anandhi, Karthick Ram Manoharan, M. Vijayabaskar, and A. Kalaiyarasan (eds), *Rethinking Social Justice*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2020.

The Manifesto and the Modern Self, in S. Anandhi, Karthick Ram Manoharan, M. Vijayabaskar, and A. Kalaiyarasan (eds), *Rethinking Social Justice*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2020.

KRIPA ANANTHPUR

(with Radhika Viswanathan) **Caste and the Business of Democracy**, in Sobin George, Manohar Yadav & Anand Inbanathan (eds), *Change & Mobility in Contemporary India: Thinking M.N. Srinivas Today*, Routledge India, 2019.

KAREN COELHO

Spatial Dislocation and Occupational Domestication: Paid Domestic Workers from a Resettlement Colony in Chennai, in Neetha N. (ed.), *Working at Others' Homes: The Specifics and Challenges of Paid Domestic Work*, New Delhi: Tulika Books, 2019.

ANANTA KUMAR GIRI

In Cosmopolitan Civility: Global–Local Relations with Fred Dallmayr, in Ruth Abbey (ed.), *Upholding Our World and Regenerating Our Earth: Calling for a Planetary Lokasamgraha*, State University of New York Press, 2020.

Rethinking and Transforming Local–Global Convergence, in Rajagopal and Divya Kirti Gupta (eds.), *Strategic Rethinking: Connecting Local-Global Business Models*, New York: Nova Science Publishers, 2019.

A. KALAIYARASAN

Politics of Dravidian Populism: Understanding Developmental Outcomes in Tamil Nadu, in S. Anandhi, K.R. Manoharan, M. Vijayabaskar, and A. Kalaiyarasan (eds), *Rethinking Social Justice*. Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2020.

AJIT MENON

Colonial Constructions of 'Agrarian Fields' and 'Forests' in the Kolli Hills, in Vinita Damodaran and Rohan D'Souza (eds), *Commonwealth Forestry and Environmental History:*

Empire, Forests and Colonial Environments in Africa, the Caribbean and South Asia, and New Zealand, New Delhi: Primus, 2020. (Reprint from *The Indian Economic and Social History Review*)

Mudumalai's Logics: Governmentalising 'Forests' and Conservation Subjects, in S. Anandhi, Karthick Ram Manoharan, M. Vijayabaskar, and A. Kalaiyarasan (eds), *Rethinking Social Justice*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2020.

K. SIVASUBRAMANIYAN

Realise Irrigation Potential of Tanks, Let People Manage, in Sunita Narain, Richard Mahapatra, Snigdha Das, Arif Ayaz Parrey, Sonalika Sinha, Aditya Misra, and Rajit Sengupta (eds), *State of India's Environment 2020*, New Delhi: Centre for Science and Environment, 2020.

A.R. VENKATACHALAPATHY

The Controversy in Context: Education and Politics in Tamil Nadu, in D. Veeraraghavan, *Half a Day for Caste? Education and Politics in Tamilnadu, 1952–55* (edited by A.R. Venkatachalapathy), New Delhi: LeftWord, 2019.

The New Nandan: The Critical Humanism of Pudumaippithan, in Kannabiran Ravishankar (ed.), *Ten Blooms of Humanism*, Illinois: Periyar International USA, 2019.

Periyar E.V. Ramasamy, in David Ludden (ed.), *Oxford Research Encyclopedia of Asian History*, New York: Oxford University Press, 2020.

M. VIJAYABASKAR

(with P.K. Viswanathan) **Emerging Vulnerabilities in India's Plantation Economy**, in K.R. Shyam Sundar (ed.), *Globalization, Labour Market Institutions, Processes and Policies in India*, Singapore: Palgrave Macmillan, 2019.

(with M. Suresh Babu and Mansi Wadhwa) **Adverse Incorporations and Subnational Welfarism**, in S. Irudaya Rajan and Sumeetha M. (eds), *Handbook of Internal Migration in India*, New Delhi: SAGE, 2019.

(with co-editors) **Introduction: The Legacy of a Dravidian Scholar**, S. Anandhi, Karthick Ram Manoharan, M. Vijayabaskar, and A. Kalaiyarasan (eds), *Rethinking Social Justice*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2020.

Emerging Labour Regimes and Mobilities in Tamil Nadu, in S. Anandhi, Karthick Ram Manoharan, M. Vijayabaskar, and A. Kalaiyarasan (eds), *Rethinking Social Justice*, Hyderabad: Orient Blackswan, 2020.

Refereed Articles / Working Papers / Monographs

SHESADRI BANERJEE

(with Rudrani Bhattacharya) **Micro-level Price Setting Behaviour in India: Evidence from Group and Sub-group Level CPIIW Data,** *Economic & Political Weekly,* 54 (49): 35–42, 2019.

(with Parantap Basu) **Technology Shocks and Business Cycles in India**, *Macroeconomic Dynamics,* 23 (5): 1721–1756, 2019.

ANANTA KUMAR GIRI

(editor) **Mahatma Gandhi and Sri Aurobindo** (Special Issue). *Gandhi Marg*, 41 (2&3), 2019.

Gandhi and Sri Aurobindo: An Invitation to Adventure of Consciousness and World Transformations, *Gandhi Marg,* 41 (2&3): 135–152, 2019.

Rupantarakari Sanhati [Transformative Harmony], *Sree*, 2019.

Ishwaranka Udyana [Garden of God], *Mahanadi*, 27: 211–221, 2019.

Corporate Social and Spiritual Responsibility, *3D: IBA Journal of Management and Leadership*, 11 (2): 7–12, 2020.

Swadeshi, Swarajya o Satyagraha: Punarbichara, Saha-Srujana o Jagatika Rupantarikaranara Sampratika Ahwana [Swadeshi, Swaraj and Satyagraha: Rethinking, Co-Creation and the Contemporary Challenges of Planetary Transformations], *Eshana: The Journal of Institute of Odia Studies Special Issue on Gandhi*, 2020.

AJIT MENON

(with Preetha K.V.) **Neo-liberalising Energy Production: The Making and Unmaking of an Ultra Mega Power Project in South India**, *Review of Development and Change*, 24 (2): 242–258, 2019.

(with Manasi Karthik) **Genealogies and Politics of Belonging: People, Nature and Conservation in the Nilgiri Hills of Tamil Nadu**, *Conservation and Society*, 17 (2): 195–203, 2019.

(with Nitin D. Rai) **The Mismeasure of Nature: The Political Ecology of Economic Valuation of Tiger Reserves in India**, *Journal of Political Ecology*, 26 (1): 652–665, 2019.

KRISHANU PRADHAN

Analytical Framework for Fiscal Sustainability: A Review, *Review of Development and Change*, 24 (1): 100–122, 2019.

K. SIVASUBRAMANIYAN

Health, Education and Livelihood Status of Tribals in Tamil Nadu, *International Research Journal of Human Resource and Social Sciences*, 6 (5): 41–73, 2019.

(with S. Rajendran) **Mitigating Drinking Water Crisis in Tamil Nadu**, *International Journal of Research - Granthaalayah*, 7 (8): 301–317, 2019.

Water Management of Two Major System Tanks according to Mamulnamas, *MIDS Working Paper No. 235*, Madras Institute of Development Studies, 2019.

M. UMANATH

(With K.Thomas Felix, R. Paramasivam and S.J. Balaji) **Sugar Price Determination in India: An Econometric Analysis**, *Agricultural Economics Research Review*, 32(conf): 165–174, 2019.

(with K. Thomas Felix and R. Paramasivam) **Households' Energy Choice and Demand in Tamil Nadu**, *MIDS Working Paper No. 236*, Madras Institute of Development Studies, 2019.

L. VENKATACHALAM

(with Lalit Kumar, Manjula M., Ramachandra Bhatta, D. Suresh Kumar, P. Indira Devi, and Pranab Mukhopadhyay) **Doubling India's Farm Incomes: Paying Farmers for Ecosystem Services, Not Just Crops!**, *Economic & Political Weekly*, 54 (23): 43–49, 2019.

(with Zareena Begum Irfan and S. Jayakumar) **Ecological Health Assessment of the Ousteri Wetland in India through Synthesizing Remote Sensing and Inventory data**, *Lakes and Reservoirs: Research & Management*, 25 (1): 84–92, 2020.

A.R. VENKATACHALAPATHY

Chettiar Midukkum Sarakku Midukkum: 20aam Nootrandil Tamil Acchu Oodagangalil Vilambaram, *Kalachuvadu*, 31 (10): 50–62, 2019.

M. VIJAYABASKAR

(with Saurabh Arora, Divya Sharma, and Andy Stirling) **Sustainable Development through Diversifying Pathways in India**, *Economic & Political Weekly*, 54 (46), 32–37, 2019.

(with Gayathri Balagopal) **Politics of Poverty Alleviation Strategies in India**, *Working Paper 2019–7*, United Nations Research Institute for Social Development, 2019.

(with P.K. Viswanathan)) **Emerging Vulnerabilities in India's Tea Plantation Economy: A Critical Engagement with Policy Response**, *MIDS Working Paper No. 233*, Madras Institute of Development Studies, 2019.

Book Reviews in Research Journals

M. VIJAYABASKAR

Financializing Poverty: Labor and Risk in Indian Microfinance by Sohini Kar, *Pacific Affairs*, 93 (1), 2020.

Articles in Newspapers / Magazines / Websites

S. ANANDHI

(Book Review) A Personal Struggle (Review of *Coming Out as Dalit: A Memoir* by Yashica Dutt]. *Open Magazine*, 10(73), 20 May 2019.

KAREN COELHO

Chennai Drought: How the Water Distribution System Reflects Residents' Social Power, *Scroll.in*, 23 July 2019.

A. KALAIYARASAN

(with Christophe Jaffrelot) The Restive Kapu, *The Indian Express*, 20 April 2019.

(with Christophe Jaffrelot) Most Marginalised of Them All, *The Indian Express*, 1 November 2019.

C. LAKSHMANAN

TN's Aspirational Urban Middle Class Rejects Modi, *LiveMint*, 24 May 2019.

KRISHANU PRADHAN

(Interview by Shobha Warrier) 'Economy has been growing at around 5% the last 7–8 years', *rediff.com*, 21 June 2019. With reference to Arvind Subramanian's research paper 'India's GDP Mis-estimation: Likelihood, Magnitudes, Mechanisms, and Implications'.

(Interview by Shobha Warrier) 'No policy to encourage household saving in Budget', *rediff.com*, 18 July 2019. On Union Budget 2019–20.

K. SIVASUBRAMANIYAN

Thanneer... Thanneer... Thanneer? (Importance of Drinking Water during Summer), *Dinamani*, 31 May 2019.

Sources of Water Front, *Breeze* (Newsletter of Indian Meteorological Society's Chennai Chapter), 19 (1), June 2019.

M. UMANATH

(with Balaji S.J.) Unemployment and Opportunities in India, *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 1 April 2019.

(with R. Paramasivam and K. Thomas Felix) Growth of Information Technology and Opportunities in Agricultural Marketing in India, *Krishi Jagran Tamil*, 1 May 2019.

(with K. Thomas Felix) Direct Benefit Transfer (DPT) in Public Distribution System and Its Practical Constraints, *Krishi Jagran Tamil*, 1 June 2019.

(with R. Paramasivam and V. Saravanakumar), Regional Comprehensive Economic Cooperation: Boon or Bane, *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 11 November 2019.

(with K. Thomas Felix), Tobacco Consumption is Injurious to Humans but Tobacco Cultivation?, *Agricultural World*, 1 February 2020.

(with Balaji S.J.) Rise of the Machines: Why India Need Not Be Afraid, *Down To Earth*, 18 April 2019.

(with Balasubramaniam M. and R. Paramasivam) Does Current Dietary Pattern Ensure Nutritional Security in India?, Novel Techniques in Nutrition & Food Science, *Novel Techniques in Nutrition & Food Science*, 28 May 2019.

A.R. VENKATACHALAPATHY

(Book review) *Journeys: A Poet's Diary*, A.K. Ramanujan, *The Tribune*, 28 April 2019.

The Plot Thickens: A Tamil Translation of a Novel that Bankim Did Not Write, *The Telegraph*, 1 May 2019.

Achu Pori Indiyavukku Vanthathu Oru Vibathu, *Andhi Mazhai*, June 2019.

(Book review) *Cricketing Country: The Untold History of the First All-India Team* by Prashant Kidambi, *The Tribune*, 23 June 2019.

What is in a Name, or an Initial?, *The Telegraph*, 27 June 2019.

Karpanaiyai Vida Unmai Namba Mudiyathathaga Irukkirathu, *Vikatan Thadam*, July 2019.

(Book review) *Culture, Language and Identity; Language, Culture & Power* by C.T. Indra and R. Rajagopalan, *The Book Review*, August 2019.

Sister Nivedita and Her Tamil Dedicator, *The Telegraph*, 23 August 2019.

(Book review) *Translating the Indian Past and Other Literary Histories* by Arvind Krishna Mehrotra, *The Tribune*, 8 September 2019.

Sculpting the Iconoclast, *The Hindu*, 15 September 2019.

Debut of 'Periyar' through a Story, *The Hindu*, 17 September 2019.

(Translation) Pazha Athiyaman, Mahatma Gandhi's 150th Birth Anniversary: The Struggle Against Social Orthodoxy, *The Hindu*, 2 October 2019.

(Translation) Pazha Athiyaman, Periyar, the Hero of Vaikom, *The Hindu*, 24 December 2019.

Va.Oo.Chiyai Emattrinara Gandhi?, *Hindu Tamil Thisai*, 3 Oct. 2019.

S.D. Viveki: Dravida Iyakkathin 'Oru Siriya Thunaikkol', Kakkai Cirakinile, 9 (1), January 2020.

Interview with Madhavan K. Palat, editor of *Selected Works of Jawaharlal Nehru*, *The Hindu*, 5 January 2020.

'Inaroozhthum…', *Kalachuvadu*, March 2020.

M. VIJAYABASKAR

Thamizhagathai Urumaatriya Naveena Padhai, in *Oru Manidhan Oru Iyakkam* (A Man, A Movement), *Frontline*, August 2019.

11. Academic Activities

Faculty

Papers Presented at Seminars / Conferences / Workshops

KRIPA ANANTHPUR

(Poster presentation) **P Tracking for Local-Level Planning.** 19th Global Development Conference on 'Knowledge for Sustainable Development: The Research Policy Nexus', Global Development Network, Bonn (Germany), 23–25 October 2019.

Caste and the Business of Democracy. Faculty Seminar, MIDS, Chennai, 19 February 2020.

P.G. BABU

(Inaugural Address) **Disability Economics and Sustainability of Intervention Protocols in India**. Founder's Day national seminar on 'Sustainable Development of Persons with Disability and Agencies in Disability Sector', Dr MGR Institute of Special Education and Research, Chennai, 24 January 2020.

(Inaugural Address) **Information Markets**. National seminar on 'Industry 4.0: Change to Transform', Dr. MGR–Janaki College of Arts and Science for Women, Chennai, 6 February 2020.

KAREN COELHO

The Canal and the City: Water's Edge Urbanisms in Chennai. South Asia Seminar Series, Interdisciplinary Center for the Study of Global Change, University of Minnesota, Minneapolis (Minnesota, USA), 1 May 2019.

Resettlement Colonies as Affordable Housing: A Critical Analysis. Fragmented Spaces: The Grammar and Politics of Urban Housing in India, Sambhavna Institute of Public Policy and Politics, Palampur (Himachal Pradesh), 12–15 June 2019.

Incremental Self-Built Housing in Chennai: Findings from 3 Case Studies. Affordable Housing in Chennai: Dynamics and Determinants, Madras Institute of Development Studies, Chennai, 22 July 2010.

(with Sarah Charlton, Darshini Mahadevia, Paula Meth, and Glyn Williams) **(Im)Mobility at the Margins: City Edge Housing and the Peri-urbanisation of Low- Income Households in the Global South**. RGS–IBG Annual International Conference 2019, 'Geographies of Trouble / Geographies of Hope', The Royal Geographical Society, London (UK), 29 August 2019.

Notes on the Sociality of Water. Perspective-Building on Water and the Metropolis, Hyderabad Urban Lab and Wipro Foundation, Hyderabad, 6 September 2019.

(Keynote Lecture) **Urban Waterlines: Socionatural Productions of Indifference.** Sponsored by International Journal of Urban and Regional Studies (IJURR), RC-21 (Research Council on Urban and Regional Studies) Annual Conference, RC21 and IJURR, New Delhi, 19 September 2019.

Lines in the Mud: Boundary Contestations on a Tank in Chennai. RC-21 Annual Conference, Panel on 'Boundaries, Contestations and the State-Citizen Interface', RC21 and IJURR, New Delhi, 20 September 2019.

Slum-Free Cities Through Mass Peripheral Resettlement. Rethinking Urbanisation and the Right to the City, Citizen, Consumer and Civic Action Group, Chennai, 2 October 2019.

Urban Waterlines: Water Infrastructures and the Politics of Indifference in Chennai. Faculty Seminar, MIDS, Chennai, 24 October 2019.

Dynamics and Determinants of Affordable Housing in Chennai. Quarterly Meeting of the Tamil Nadu State Land Use Research Board (TNSLURB), TN State Planning Commission, Chennai, 2 December 2019.

Gender, Safety and Livelihoods in Chennai's Resettlement Colonies. International Conference on Communication for Development: Interventions for Empowering Women, SPARC, Anna University + Institute of Housing and Development Studies (HIS) Erasmus University, Netherlands + MHRD, New Delhi, Chennai, 16 December 2019.

Peripheral Urbanisation and the Politics of Land. IIT Winter School 2020: Sustainability in the Peri-scene: Human Settlements, Food, Ecology and Governance, Indo–German Center for Sustainabilty, Indian Institute of Technology (IIT)–Madras, Chennai, 18 February 2020.

New Urban Geographies and the Disempowerment of Working-class Women. The Prajnya Women's History Roundtable Series, Prajnya Trust, Chennai, 14 March 2020.

ANANTA KUMAR GIRI

Rethinking Swadeshi, Swaraj and Satyagraha: Learning from Failure of Traditions, Contingent Histories and Alternative Futures. How Gandhi Matters: Assessing the Relevance of Gandhian Solution for India and the World in the 21st Century, Gandhi Research Foundation, Jalgaon, 23–24 August 2019.

Rethinking Decentralization, Democracy and Developments: Limits of Statism, With and Beyond Ambedkar and the Contemporary Challenges of Local-Global Commons. Panchayati Raj and Thoughts of Dr Ambedkar, Institute of Social and Economic Change, (ISEC), Bengaluru, 18–19 September 2019.

(Co-nurturing) **Corporate Social and Spiritual Responsibility**. International conference, Indus Business Academy, Bengaluru, 20–21 September 2019.

Rethinking Satyagraha: Travel, Truth and Translation. Satyagraha in 21st Century, Council for Social Development and India International Centre, Delhi, 12–14 October 2019.

Critiques of Political Economy and Alternative Planetary Futures. Workshop on 'Critiques of Political Economy and Alternative Planetary Futures', MIDS, Chennai, 15 November 2019.

Towards a New Garden of Sabad and Vani. Annual Integration Conference, Indian Institute of Advanced Study (IIAS), Shimla, on Guru Nanak's 550th Birthday, 25 November 2019.

Rethinking and Transforming Happiness and Good Life: The Calling of Transformative Faith and Hope. RVP International Conference on Happiness and Good Life, University of Delhi, 6–12 January 2020.

Gandhi, Gramsci and Hitler. International seminar on Global Legacy of Gandhi, Zakir Husain College, Delhi, 24–25 January 2020.

Global Inequality and Global Responsibility. Indian Association of Social Science Institutions Annual Conference, ISEC, Bengaluru, 28 February 2020.

K. JAFAR

(Co-presenter) **Perspective on Social Policy.** Special seminar on 'Union Budget 2019–20: Implications for the Economy', MIDS, Chennai, 9 August 2019.

Critical Reading & Literature Review. Academic Writing Workshop for Scheduled Caste MPhil/PhD Scholars, Centre for Dalit and Subaltern Studies, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development (RGNIYD, Sriperumbudur) and MIDS, Chennai, 26–27 August 2019.

(Co-presenter) **Target with Care: Shock-Responsive Social Protection in a Decentralised Governance Framework.** International conference on 'Resilient Social Protection For An Inclusive Future', Nepal Planning Commission + Social Science Baha + ILO + UNDP + UNESCAP + GIZ + The World Bank + UNICEF + UK Aid, Kathmandu, 18–19 September 2019.

Preparing for Higher Education in Social Sciences and Humanities. Mentorship programme for students, Amal College of Advanced Studies, Nilambur + Malabar Scholar + Kerala State Higher Education Council, Nilambur (Kerala), 9 November 2019.

Research and Teaching Islamic Economics: Some Concerns. International Conclave on Kerala Muslims, Darul Huda Islamic University, Chemmad (Kerala), 3–5 January 2020.

Survey Methods, Tools of Data Analysis and Reference Tools. Research Methodology Training Programme, Loyola College, Chennai, 5 February 2020.

A. KALAIYARASAN

(Co-presenter) **Perspective on Social Policy.** Special seminar on 'Union Budget 2019–20: Implications for the Economy', MIDS, Chennai, 9 August 2019.

Framing Academic Question or Data and Methods in Social Science. Academic Writing Workshop for Scheduled Caste MPhil/PhD Scholars, Centre for Dalit and Subaltern Studies, RGNIYD, Sriperumbudur and MIDS, Chennai, 26–27 August 2019.

Structural Change in Tamil Nadu, 1980–2010: Limits of Sub-National Development. Faculty Seminar, MIDS, Chennai, 6 September 2019.

AJIT MENON

The Mismeasure of Nature: The Political Ecology of Economic Valuation of Tiger Reserves in India. Conservation, Climate Change and Decolonisation: Exploring New Frontiers in Conservation Social Science, Institute of Environmental Science and Technology, Universitate Autonoma de Barcelona + Sheffield Institute for International Development, Barcelona (Spain), 29 October 2019.

KRISHANU PRADHAN

Growth-Maximizing Fiscal Rule Targets in India. 56th Annual Conference of The Indian Econometric Society (TIES), Madurai Kamaraj University and TIES, Madurai Kamaraj University, 8–10 January 2020.

Social Sector Spending in Tamil Nadu. Seminar on Social Sector Spending and Fiscal Management in the Southern States of India, Cochin University of Science and Technilogy, Kochi (Kerala), 5–6 March 2020.

K. SIVASUBRAMANIYAN

Water Crisis and Water Management in Tamil Nadu. Seminar on Water Crisis and Water Management, IIPA + Department of Economics, Sacred Heart College, Tirupattur, 24 July 2019.

Sources of Water Front. Brainstorming Meet on Chennai Water Management, Indian Meteorological Society, Chennai Chapter, Chennai, 3 August 2019.

Water and Soil Conservation for the Development of Climate Change–Induced Agriculture and Sustainable Livelihood. One-day consultation, World Vision India, Chennai, Tiruchirappalli, 4 September 2019.

Irrigated Agriculture in Tamil Nadu and India, A Macro Perspective: 1950–51 to 2016–17 with Focus on the Role of Irrigation. International Conference on Contemporary Practices of Technology and Management for Economic Growth, VIT Business School, Chennai, 6–7 Septenber 2019.

Status of Agriculture in Tamil Nadu and India. Symposium on Water Resources: Sustainable Overtures, ICFAI Law School, Hyderabad, 28 September 2019.

(with V. Rengarajan) **Theories of Change in Rural Transformation: Critical Review and A Way Forward.** Faculty Seminar, MIDS, Chennai, 1 October 2019.

Reviving Tank Systems through People Participation: Experiences and Scope for the Future. Symposium on Land, Water and Agriculture: Relevance of Gandhi, Association of Sarva Seva Farms, Madurai, Tamil Nadu, 10 October 2019.

Irrigation and Agriculture: Productivity Improvement in India. Lecture series, Department of Economics, The Gandhigram Rural Institute, Dindigul, 30 October 2019.

Performance of Agriculture in Tamil Nadu and India: With Special Reference to Irrigation Development. National Conference on Growth with Stability: Economic Prospects and Challenges in India, Madras Christian College (with The Indian Econometric Society), Madras Christian College, Chennai, 22 November 2019.

Water: Challenges for Youth in Future. *Neer Indri Amaiyathu Uzhagu* (There is No World Without Water), Annual conference of Department of Development Management, Madras School of Social Work, Chennai, 27 January 2020.

Agriculture and Union Budget: The True Picture. Union Budget 2020, VIT Business School, VIT Chennai, 11 February 2020.

Drinking Water Supply in Tamil Nadu: Special Focus on Rural Drinking Water. International Conference on Liberalization, Privatization and Globalization: Three Decades of Experience in India, Department of Economics, The Gandhigram Rural Institute, Dindigul, 14–15 February 2020.

Importance of Water in the Global Economy. National Seminar on Global Economy in Transition, Department of Economics, Justice Basheer Ahmed Sayeed College for Women (SIET), Chennai, 18 February 2020.

Decline in Area under Agricultural Production with Special Reference to Tank Irrigation. National Seminar on Indian Agricultural Crises: The Way Forward, Department of Economics, Periyar University, Centre for Research in Economics and Social Development, Salem, 13–14 March 2020.

History of Tank Irrigation in Tamil Nadu: History. Lecture series. Department of History, Periyar University, Salem, 13 March 2020.

M. UMANATH

Dietary Diversity under Public Distribution System: An Evidence from Tamil Nadu, India. Young Scholar Initiative—Asia Convening—2019, Vietnam National University in Economics & Business, Hanoi (Vietnam), 12–14 August 2019.

Dietary Diversity under Public Distribution System: An Evidence from Tamil Nadu, India. National conference on Ascertaining Food Security through Livelihood Enriching Interventions: Challenges and Opportunities, Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru College of Agriculture & Research Institute, Karaikal, 4–6 September 2019.

Impact of Crop Diversification on Farm Income in India: An Evidence from Household-Level Data. National Conference on Climate Smart Agriculture for Livelihood Security: Challenges and Opportunities, A.D. Agricultural College & Research Institute, Tiruchirappalli, 13–14 September 2019.

Sugar Price Determination in India: An Econometric Analysis. Conference on Changing Landscape of Rural India, Punjab Agricultural University, Ludhiana, 17–19 December 2019.

Simultaneous Equation Model for Indian Sugar Sector. 56th Annual Conference of The Indian Econometric Society, Madurai Kamaraj University, Madurai, 8–10 January 2020.

L. VENKATACHALAM

Nudging the Farmers towards Adopting Micro Irrigation. International Seminar on Micro Irrigation in India: Economic, Impact and Potential, Department of Economics and Rural Development, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, 30 January 2020.

Wetland Management: Role of Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services, Faculty Seminar, MIDS, Chennai, 26 July 2019.

A.R. VENKATACHALAPATHY

Copyright, Public Domain and the Post-Colonial State. The Curious Case of 'Nationalization' of Copyright in Contemporary Tamilnadu. Postcolonial Print Cultures, New York University, Abu Dhabi, 22–23 January 2020.

'Tamilil Vilambaram: Oru Varalaru'. Research 25 Past Forward Conference, Roja Muthiah Research Library, Chennai, 1–3 August 2019.

Language and Politics: The Professionalization of Tamil Teachers in the Colonial India. Department of History, University of Hyderabad, 24 February 2020.

M. VIJAYABASKAR

Combining Human Development with Structural Transformation: A Dravidian Legacy. National Conference on Growth and Regional Development in India, Institute for Human Development, New Delhi, 13–15 May 2019.

The De-Metropolitisation of Software Services in India. An Institutional Understanding of IT Cluster in Coimbatore, Southern India (with A. Varrel). 11th International Convention of Asian Scholars (panel on Can Periurban and Subaltern Regions of Fast-Industrializing Asia Forge Resilient Development Paths? Juggling Local Assets and Constraints to Engage in Global Competition I), International Association of Asian Studies, Leiden, Netherlands, 18 July 2019.

Rifts between Macro and Meso Scales of Governance of Industrial Clusters: Some Evidence from Tiruppur, Southern India. 11th International Convention of Asian Scholars (panel on Can Periurban and Subaltern Regions of Fast-Industrializing Asia Forge Resilient Development Paths? Juggling Local Assets and Constraints to Engage in Global Competition II), International Association of Asian Studies, Leiden, Netherlands, 18 July 2019.

Becoming/Being a Young Farmer in Tamil Nadu. Becoming Young Farmers: Vision of Rural Vitalisation and Dynamics of Agrarian Transition, College of Humanities and Development Studies, China Agricultural University, Beijing, 20 August 2019.

(with Roy Huijsmans, Aprilia Ambarwati and Charina Chazali) **Farming, Gender and Aspirations over the Young Life Course**. Becoming young Farmers: Vision of Rural Vitalisation and Dynamics of Agrarian Transition, College of Humanities and Development Studies, China Agricultural University, Beijing, 21 August 2019.

Constraints to Upgrading and Employment Expansion in the Tiruppur Knitwear Cluster. Industrialisation for Jobs and Growth, Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade, Ministry of Commerce and Industry + Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship + Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai, India International Centre, New Delhi, 22 October 2019

Participation in Seminars / Conferences / Workshops

S. ANANDHI

(Chair) **Social Theory Today.** Public Lecture by Sujata Patel, MIDS, Chennai, 6 August 2019.

(Endowment Lecture) **Women and Work in the Age of Neo-Liberalism**. Yashoda Shanmugasundaram Endowment Lecture, Economics Department, Ethiraj College, Chennai, 14 September 2019.

(Guest Lecture) **Masculinities in Gender Studies**, Department of Humanities and social sciences, IIT Madras, 24 September 2019.

(Resource Person and Co-Coordinator) Border Crossing Meeting and Storytelling / Writing Workshop, Humanities across Borders Program of the IIAS (Leiden, Netherlands) + Kenyon College (Ohio, USA) and MIDS, Chennai, 19–21 December 2019.

(Guest Lecture) **Caste and Gender in Contemporary India**, Elmherst–Madras Christian College Exchange Scholar visit lecture series, Elmherst College (USA) and Madras Christian College, Chennai, 6 January 2020.

(Guest Lecture) **Women's Movements and Agendas for Gendered Development.** For visiting students from Furman University in Greenville South Carolina (USA), Furman University (with MIDS), Chennai, 12 February 2020.

(Visiting Faculty Lectures) **Covering Gender.** Asian College of Journalism, Chennai, 21 January–7 March 2020.

KRIPA ANANTHPUR

(Speaker) **Participatory Planning for Village Development Planning in Tamil Nadu**. Panchayat Raj Day Celebrations, Department of Local Governance, RGNIYD, Sriperumbudu, 24 April 2019.

(Visiting Faculty) 5 Lectures on **Qualitative Research Methods**, Summer School for Future Leaders in Development, Sanford School of Public Policy, Duke University and IIM Udaipur, Udaipur, 17–19 June 2019.

(Speaker) **Does Induced People's Participation Improve Governance Outcomes at the Panchayat Level? An Ethnography of an RCT to Deepen Democracy in Rural North Karnataka Panchayats.** TASS Lecture Series, Institute of Rural Management Anand, Anand (Gujarat), 25 July 2019.

(Chief Guest and Speaker) **Local Governance in India: A Brief History**. Inauguration of the Association of Public Administration, Department of Public Administration, Madras Christian College, Chennai, 9 September 2019.

(Keynote Speaker) **Women's Empowerment as a Path to Building an Inclusive Society: A Case Study of Pudu Vazhvu Project in Tamil Nadu**. 25th Asia–Pacific Joint Regional Social Work Conference on Social Work Partnerships towards an Equal Society: Asia–Pacific Perspective, International Federation of Social Workers—Asia Pacific + Asian and Pacific Association for Social Work Education, Bengaluru, 20 September 2019.

(Resource Person) **Challenges of Local Governance**, CSOs' Coordination and Solidarity Meeting, Human Rights Advocacy & Research Foundation, Chennai, 22 January 2020.

(Lecture) **Qualitative Methods for Research.** Training Programme on Research Methodology, Organized by Dean of Research in collaboration with LISSTAR, Loyola College, Chennai, 5 February 2020.

Household Attitudes and preferences in seeking Obstetric care in rural Karnataka. For visiting students from Furman University in Greenville South Carolina (USA), Furman University (with MIDS), Chennai, 12 February 2020.

P.G. BABU

(Lecture) **Economics as Parables: From Basics to the Frontier**. Dr Sr Helen Vincent Endowment Lecture, Stella Maris College, Chennai, 27 August 2019.

Role of Law in Developing Countries, Dr N. Rajalakshmi Endowment Lecture 2019–20, Department of Economics, University of Madras, Chennai, 18 September 2019.

(Chair) Plenary Session Panel Discussion on Dynamics of India's Economic Growth Slowdown. MCC-TIES National Conference on 'Growth with Stability: Economic Prospects and Challenges in India', Madras Christian College, Chennai, 22 November 2019.

(Invited Lectures) **Search and Matching.** 2 lectures. UGC Refresher Course for Faculty, Department of Economics, University of Madras, Chennai, 13 November 2019.

(Discussant) Workshop on Chennai City Partnership. World Bank and Government of Tamil Nadu, Chennai, 25–26 November 2019.

(Panellist) The New Economy Set for a Restart, Indian Express ThinkEdu Conclave 2020, Chennai, 9 January 2020.

(Discussant) European Law and Economics Conference, Erasmus University, Rotterdam (Netherlands), 13–15 February 2020.

(Discussant) IIAS Leiden Workshop on Humanities without Borders, Chiang Mai, Thailand, 18–20 February 2020.

(MIDS Short Course) **Decision Theory**. Three out of five scheduled lectures delivered, MIDS, Chennai, February–March 2020.

(Opening Address) National Seminar on 'Union Budget 2020–21', MIDS, Chennai, 13 March 2020.

KAREN COELHO

(Panellist) Second biannual meeting of the International Scientific Advisory Panel (ISAP)) of the project 'Revitalising Informal Settlements and their Environments' (RISE), Monash University, Melbourne, Makassar (Indonesia), 1–2 April 2019.

(Invited participant) Advisory Committee Meeting for the 'State of Housing in India' Report, Centre for Policy Research, New Delhi, 19 April 2019.

(Participant) Grant-writing workshop, University of Sheffield, Department of Geography and Urban Planning, Sheffield (UK), 29–30 May 2019.

(Lecture) **Urban Ethnogaphy**. Summer School in Comparative Urban Studies, RC21-(Research Council on Urban and Regional Studies), with International Journal of Urban and Regional Studies (IJURR), New Delhi, 9 September 2019.

(2 Lectures) **Urban Displacement**. Class 11 Sociology Project, Krishnamurthy Foundation School, Chennai, October 2019.

(Invited participant) Urban Policy Dialogues, Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Bengaluru, 5–6 November 2019.

(Moderator) Panel on 'Leaving No Child Behind', Workshop on 'Children in Tamil Nadu: Progress, Challenges and Way Forward', Tamil Nadu State Planning Commission and UNICEF, Chennai, 14–15 November 2019.

(Lecture) **Resettlement Colonies in Chennai**. Field immersion programme for Urban Fellows, Indian Institute for Human Settlements and MIDS, Chennai, 19 November 2019.

(Panellist) Third biannual meeting of ISAP, RISE, Monash University Melbourne and Suva, Fiji, 25-27 November 2019.

(Participant) Stakeholder consultation on the Draft Tamil Nadu Housing and Habitat Policy, Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board, Chennai, 27 February 2020.

(Participant) Meeting of the NGO Platform on Urban WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) in Tamil Nadu, Indian Institute for Human Settlements, Chennai, 20 January 2020.

(Moderator) Panel Discussion on 'Politics of Public Space: A Discussion on the Central Vista Redevelopment', Chennai Architecture Foundation, Chennai, 19 February 2020.

ANANTA KUMAR GIRI

(Lecture) **Corporate Spiritual Responsibility**. Dept of Commerce, Ravenshaw University, 20 August 2019.

(Lecture) **Cultivating New Pathways of Wholeness.** Ravenshaw University, Jati Rupantara, The Universe, Cuttack, 20 August 2019.

(Lecture) **Transpositional Subjectojectivity**. Jnana-Deepa Vidaypeeth, Pune, 27 August 2019.

(Lecture) **Transforming Caste Domination and Transformation of Consciousness**. Wilson College, Mumbai, 29 August 2019.

(Lecture) **With and Beyond Epistemology from the South: Epistemic Freedom, Epistemic Responsibility, Multi-topial Hermeneutics and the Calling of Planetary Realizations**. Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT, Mumbai, 29 August 2019.

(Lecture) **New Challenges of Cultural Analysis and Criticism**. Sambalpur University, Sambalpur, 6 September 2019.

(Lecture) **Doing Peace Work: Walking and Meditating with Gandhi and St. Francis of Assisi and the Contemporary Challenges of Healing Words and Worlds**. Calvary Ashram, Thrissur (Kerala), 13 September 2019.

(Lecture) **Transforming Caste Domination and Transformation of Consciousness.** CREST, Kozhikode, 17 September 2019.

(Lecture) **Cultivating Peace**. University of Calicut, Kozhikode, 17 September 2019.

(Lecture) **Contemporary Contributions to Critiques of Political Economy**. St Johns Regional Seminary, Near Visakhapatnam, 7 September 2019.

(3 Lectures) **Caste, Epistemology** and **Regional Social Sciences**. As Visiting Scholar, Department of Politics and Public Administration, University of Pune, 7–10 October 2019.

(Discussant) **Bharatiya Management**. National Consultation on Bharatiya Management, Bengaluru, 18–19 October 2019.

(Lecture) **Transforming the Subjective and the Objective: Transpositional Subjectojectivity**. Centre for Advanced Studies in Sociology, University of Delhi, 21 November 2019.

(Lecture) **Social Sciences and the Regional Imaginations of India**. IIAS, Shimla, 2 December 2019.

(Lecture) **Rethinking Subjectivity and Objectivity**. Department of Philosophy, Punjab University, Chandigarh, 4 December 2019.

(Lecture) **Social Sciences and Regional Imaginations of India**. Annual Conference of Indian Sociological Society, University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, 28–29 December 2019.

(Lecture) **Practical Vedanta, Social Vedanta, Pragmatism, Spirituality and Society: Confucianism, Vedanta and Planetary Conversations**. International Congress on Vedanta, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi, 11 January 2020.

(Lecture) **Gardens of God**. Jnana-Deepa Vidyapeeth, Pune, 29 January 2020.

(Plenary Lecture) **Feminist Standpoint and the Limits of the Epistemic**. New Horizons for Women's Studies in 21st Century, Abasaheb Garware College, Pune, 30–31 January 2020.

(Lecture) **Transformative Harmony**. IIT Gandhinagar, 3 February 2020.

(Keynote Address) **New Horizons of Earth Ethics and the Calling of Aesthetics and Responsibility: Upholding our World, Regenerating our Earth and the Dance of a Planetary Lokasamgraha**. International Seminar on Earth Ethics, Lady Keane College, Shillong, 14–15 February 2020.

(Participant) Social Sciences and the Regional Imaginations of India: The Discourse and Practice of Writings of Social Sciences and Humanities in Assamese. Cotton University, Guwahati, 17 February 2020.

(Lecture) **Transformative Harmony: Cultivating New Pathways of Psychology of Peace, Soulful Social Therapy and Planetary Well-Being and Healing**. Dept of Psychology, University of Madras, 22 February 2020.

(Keynote Address) **Rethinking and Transforming Political Science, Politics, Area Studies and Global Studies: Challenges of a New Cosmopolitanism, World Order and a Planetary Lokasamgraha**. Annual Meeting of Karnataka Political Science Association, Mysore, 25-26 February 2020.

(Lecture) **Contemporary Contributions to Critiques of Political Economy: Political Economy, Moral Economy, Moral Sociology and Spiritual Ecology and the Calling of Alternative Planetary Futures**. ISEC, Bengaluru, 3 March 2020.

(Lecture) **Gandhi and Sri Aurobindo**. Bharat Bhavan, Auroville, 7–8 March 2020.

K. JAFAR

(Participant) Tamil Nadu State-level Consultation on Global Compact for (Safe, Orderly and Regular) Migration. National Domestic Workers' Movement in association with Migrant Forum Asia + Centre for Indian Migrant Studies + Solidarity Centre + ILO, Chennai, 21 September 2019.

(Invited Lecture) **Perspectives on Kerala's Development Experience**. Department of Economics, MES Kalladi College, Mannarkkad (Kerala), 17 January 2020.

(Special Lecture) **Intellectual Property Rights and Development**. Department of Interdisciplinary Studies, The Tamil Nadu Dr Ambedkar Law University, Chennai, 12 February 2020.

A. KALAIYARASAN

(Invited Special lecture) **Winners and Losers: Indian Muslims Post-Sachar**. Centre for Studies in Social Sciences Calcutta, Kolkata, 12 June 2019.

Impact of Class Differentiation among Dominant Castes in Rural India. Ashoka University, Sonipat (Haryana), 15 November 2019.

AJIT MENON

(Lecture) **Contested Conservation: Governmentalising Landscapes and Belonging in the Nilgiri–Wayanad Region of South India**. Lunch Time Colloquium Series, Rachel Carson Center, Munich (Germany), 12 December 2019.

Explorers, Planters and Gold Mining Companies: Colonial Governmentality and the Civilising of Nature. Work in Progress Seminar, Rachel Carson Center, Munich (Germany), 15 January 2020.

K. SIVASUBRAMANIYAN

(Selection Committee Member) Selection of Two Assistant Professors, Department of Economics, DRBCCC Hindu College, Chennai, 10 April 2019.

(Participant) How Indian People Voted in the 2019 Lok Sabha Election, Chennai International Centre, Chennai, 25 May 2019.

(Participant) Multilateralism for Global Development and Sustainability, Chennai International Centre, Chennai, 11 June 2019.

(Discussant) Chennai's Water Body Restoration: The Macro Plans & Macro Efforts, Chennai International Centre, Chennai, 24 August 2019.

(Participant) Annual Day Celebrations, Madras School of Economics, Chennai, 21 September 2019.

(Participant) R. Venkataraman Endowment Lecture, Madras School of Economics, 26 September 2019.

(Selection Committee Member) South Asia Water Leadership Program on Climate Change (SAWA), Selection of 3 Saci/Waters Fellows Batch III, Centre for Water Resources, Anna University, Chennai, 16 December 2019.

(Discussant) Policy Dissemination and Advocacy Workshop on Resource-use Planning for Sustainable Agriculture, CARDS- TNAU + ICAR-NIAP, New Delhi, Tamil Nadu Agricultural University, Coimbatore, 24 January 2020.

(Panellist) Panel Discussion on 'Decoding Budget 2020', Presidency University, Bengaluru, 10 February 2020.

(Discussant) Workshop on Rethinking Development: Development Studies and a New Art of Border Crossing: Resistance, Renewal and New Movements of Theory, Practice & Collaborative Imagination, MIDS, Chennai, 16 March 2020.

M. UMANATH

(Participant) Summer School in Econometrics, Gokhale Institute of Politics & Economics, Pune, 23 May–3 June 2019.

(Participant) Seven-day National Workshop on 'Econometric Tools for Business Research', Department of Management studies, Pondicherry University, Puducherry, 25 June–1 July 2019.

L. VENKATACHALAM

(Resource Person) **Challenges of Teachers in the Globalised World**. Training Programme on Academic Leadership, MEASI Institute of Management, Chennai, 3 April 2019.

(Resource Person) **Basics of Academic Writing**. Workshop on Academic Writing, RGNIYD, Sriperumbudur + Department of Sociology, University of Madras, Chennai, 29 April 2019.

(Resource Person) **Writing Research Proposals in Social Sciences**. Faculty Enrichment Programme, Stella Maris College, Chennai, 11 June 2019.

(Speaker) **Economic Values of Ecosystem Services of Wetlands**, Framework for Wetland Inventory, Assessment and Monitoring System, GIZ and MoEFCC, Delhi, New Delhi, 23 and 24 July 2019.

(Resource Person) **Environmental Management** (2 lectures), General Management and Leadership Programme, Management Development Programme, IIM, Kozhikode, 9 August 2019.

(Chair) Session on 'Issues Related to Chennai Water Security and Sustainable Solutions', Stakeholder Consultation: Towards Ensuring Water Security in Chennai City, Tamil Nadu, India, Indo–Swedish Alumni Association, Tamil Nadu Chapter + MSSRF, Chennai, 23 August 2019.

(Speaker) **Urban Water Management: Policy Issues Related to Chennai Water Security**, Stakeholder Consultation: Towards Ensuring Water Security in Chennai City, Tamil Nadu, India, Indo-Swedish Alumni Association, Tamil Nadu Chapter and MSSRF, Chennai, 23 August 2019.

(Lecture) **Opportunities for Economics Graduates**. Guest Lecture Series, Theagaraya College, Chennai, 29 August 2019.

(Lectures) **Environmental Governance and Sustainable Development**. 48 hours. Post-Graduate Programme (PGP)/Executive Post-Graduate Programme, IIM Kozhikode, Kochi and Chennai, September–November 2019.

(Panellist) Economic Instruments for Water Management in Urban Areas, Panel Discussion on Urban Planning: Improving the Ease of Living, Department of Management Studies, IIT Madras, Chennai, 18 October 2019.

(Chair) Urban Waterlines: Water Infrastructure and the Politics of Indifferences in Chennai, Faculty Seminar by Karen Coelho, MIDS, Chennai, 24 October 2019.

(Resource Person) **Behavioural Economics: An Introduction to Principles and Methods** (2 Lectures), Pre-conference workshop on Behavioural and Experimental Economics for Environmental Policy, Indian Society for Ecological Economics (INSEE) + Centre for Economic and Social Studies (CESS) + National Institute of Rural Development (NIRD), Hyderabad, 5 November 2019.

(Co-chair) Panel on Institutions and Sustainability, Tenth Biennial Conference of the Indian Society for Ecological Economics, INSEE + CESS + NIRD, Hyderabad, 7 November 2019.

(Panellist) Economic Instruments for Water Management in Chennai City, Seminar on Urban Thinker's Campus: Making Chennai Water Positive, Madras Chambers of Commerce and industry, Chennai, 8 November 2019.

(Resource Person) Environmental Management, General Management and Leadership Programme, IIM Kozhikode, Kozhikode, 9 November 2019.

(Resource Person) **Contributions of Behavioural and Experimental Economics Research for Macroeconomic Policymaking**, Refresher course on Emerging Issues in Indian Macro Economy, Agricultural and Social Sectors, Department of Economics, University of Madras, Chennai, 11 November 2019.

(Special Lecture) **Water Management in India**. Special Lecture Series, Shankar IAS Academy, Chennai, 26 November 2019.

(Participant) Water Security and Climate Change Adaptation in Rural India, GIZ -GoTN, Chennai, 29 November 2019.

(Resource Person) **Basics of Doing Research in Economics**, Workshop on Research Methodology, Department of Economics, Presidency College, Chennai, 13 December 2019.

(Valedictory Address) **How to Promote Altruism towards Sustainability of Agencies in Disability Sector**, National Seminar on Sustainable Development of Persons with Disability and Agencies in Disability Sector, Dr MGR Institute of Special Education and Research, Chennai, 24 January 2020.

(Speaker) **Methodology for Assessing Economic Values of Environmental Damages** Seminar on Economic Assessment of Environmental Damages in Chennai Waterways, Tamil Nadu Pollution Control Board, Chennai, 29 January 2020.

(Chair) Technical Session on the Impact of MI on Productivity & Energy Use, International Seminar on Micro-irrigation in India: Economics, Impact and Potential, Department of Economics and Rural Development, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, 31 January 2020.

(Speaker) **Economic Valuation of Wetland Ecosystem Services**, Seminar on the eve of World Wetlands Day, Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority, Chennai, 2 February 2020.

(Resource Person) **Environmental Management.** General Management and Leadership Programme, IIM Kozhikode, Kozhikode, 15 February 2020.

(Keynote Address) **Agricultural Sustainability in India: Issues and the Way Forward**, National Seminar on Agriculture Towards a Paradigm Shift, Department of Economics, University of Calicut, Kozhikode, 19 February 2020.

(Guest Speaker) **Role of Behavioural Economics in Public Policy**, Prof. C.O. Abraham Memorial Lecture, Department of Economics, St Berchman's College, Changanacherry (Kerala), 20 February 2020.

(Keynote Speaker) **Agricultural Sustainability in India: Issues and the Way Forward**, National Conference on Agrarian Distress and Environmental Issues and Policies, St Agnes College, Mangalore, 10 March 2020.

A.R. VENKATACHALAPATHY

(Lecture) **Language Politics in Tamilnadu.** Asian College of Journalism, Chennai, July 2019.

M. VIJAYABASKAR

(Inaugural Address) **Youth in a Globalising World.** Inauguration of the Sociology Association, Loyola College, Department of Sociology, Loyola College, Chennai, 9 July 2019.

(Discussant) Becoming Young Farmers: Vision of Rural Vitalisation and Dynamics of Agrarian Transition (Session on Youth in Farming in Canada), College of Humanities and Development Studies, China Agricultural University, Beijing, 19 August 2019.

(Discussant and Chair) Becoming Young Farmers: Vision of Rural Vitalisation and Dynamics of Agrarian Transition (Session on Youth in Farming in Indonesia), College of Humanities and Development Studies, China Agricultural University, Beijing, 21 August 2019.

(Talk) **Challenges of Labour Movements.** All-India Workshop of Young and Emerging Activists of Working Class Front, All India Central Council of Trade Unions, Bhubaneshwar, 31 August 2019.

(Panellist) **Emergent Non-Farm Economies: Issues & Policy Options**, Beyond Productivity and Populism: Reimagining India's Agricultural and Rural Policies, 2nd NRAS National Policy Conference, Network for Rural and Agrarian Studies (NRAS), supported by Ford Foundation and IIT Delhi, New Delhi, 26 September 2019.

(Panellist and Speaker) **Social Protection Systems in TN**, Workshop on 'Children and SDGs', State Planning Commission, Tamil Nadu + Department of Economics and Statistics, GoTN + UNICEF, Chennai, 14 November 2019.

(Panellist) Workshop on Challenges to India's Fiscal Federalism on Thursday, Gulati Institute of Finance and Taxation, Thiruvananthapuram + Institute of Social Sciences, Puducherry, Puducherry, 21 November 2019.

(Special Lecture) **The Appeal of Universal Basic Income: Content and Discontent.** Department of Economics, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur, 17 December 2019.

(Lecture) **Agriculture and Rural Economy**. Coaching Classes for IAS Aspirants, All India Civil Services Coaching Centre, Chennai + Anna Institute of Management, GoTN, Chennai, 5 February 2020.

(Chair, Technical Session) Conference on Industry 4.0: Change to Transform, Dr MGR-Janaki College of Arts & Science for Women, Chennai, 6, February 2020.

(Talk) **Towards A Five Trillion Dollar Economy: Policy Dilemmas**. UGC-sponsored state-level seminar, Department of Economics, Arulanandhar College, Madurai, 12 February 2020.

(Talk) **Political Economy from the Perspective of Social Justice.** Panel Discussion, Madurai Aaraichi Vattam, Madurai, 12 February 2020.

(Talk) **Policy Options for Sustained Economic Dynamism**. Department of Economics, American College, Madurai, 13 February 2020.

(Talk) International conference on 'BusinessNext'. Department of Commerce, Loyola College, Chennai, 5 March 2020.

Other Academic Activities / Administration / Achievements

S. ANANDHI

(Co-coordinator) Winter School in Social Sciences, in collaboration with The French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP), Puducherry.

Refereed articles for *Development and Change, Modern Asian Studies, History Compass*, and *Hypatia*.

Member, Doctoral Committee: Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras (4 students); Centre for Women's Studies and Department of Economics, University of Madras (1 student); Media Sciences, Anna University (1 student); Department of Social Work, Madras School of Social Work (1 student); Department of History, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli (1 student).

Member, Advisory Board: Centre for Women's Studies, Ethiraj College, Chennai; Stella Maris College, Chennai.

Member, Advisory Committee: Centre for Women's Development and Research.

Member, Board of Studies: RGNYID, Sriperumpudur (External Member); Women's Studies, Centre for Women's Studies, Alagappa University, Karaikudi.

PhD thesis examiner: Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Kanpur (1 student); Women's Studies Department, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai (1 student); Centre for Historical Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi (1 student).

Conducted viva voce examination as an external member (Media Sciences, Anna University, Chennai).

PhD guide: MIDS (4 students).

Associate Editor, *Review of Development and Change.*

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Academic Council; Library Committee (Chair).

KRIPA ANANTHPUR

Reviewed 1 article for *Review of Development & Change*.

Member of State Level Coordination Committee for Panel Studies

MIDS Representative on State Evaluation Advisory Board

Member, Doctoral Committee: IIT Madras (1 student); Stella Maris College, Chennai (1 student); MIDS (2 students).

PhD guide: MIDS (1 student).

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Academic Council; PhD Committee.

P.G. BABU

Member, Board of Governors, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi.

Chairman's Nominee to the Senate, IIT Bombay.

Chief Justice of India's Nominee to the Academic Council, Maharashtra National Law University, Mumbai.

Member, Board of Studies: Department of Economics, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur.

Member, Faculty Selection Committee: Centre for Studies in Social Sciences, Kolkata; Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi (for Professors; November 2019); IISER Bhopal; Madras Christian College, Chennai (subject expert; November 2019)

Thesis examiner: IIM Calcutta; IIM Lucknow.

Honoured as distinguished alumnus, The Indian Econometric Society (TIES) Conference, Madurai Kamaraj University, 8–10 January 2020; attended executive committee, TIES as managing editor of the Society's journal.

Editor, *Review of Development and Change* and Managing Editor, *Journal of Quantitative Economics* (journal of The Indian Econometric Society).

KAREN COELHO

(Coordinator) One-day national workshop on 'Dynamics and Determinants of Affordable Housing in Chennai', MIDS, 22 July 2019.

(Coordinator) Panel on 'Boundaries, Contestations and the State–Citizen Interface', Annual International Conference RC-21, New Delhi, 19–22 September 2019.

(Coordinator) Orientation seminar for Urban Fellows from IIHS, Bengaluru, undergoing their field immersion trip, MIDS, 19 November 2019.

(Coordinator) National workshop on 'Fragmented Spaces: The Grammar and Politics of Urban Housing in India', Sambhavna Institute of Public Policy and Politics, Himachal Pradesh, 12–15 June 2019.

(Coordinator) Seminar on 'Culture of the Indian Nomad' by G.N. Devy, MIDS, 6 March 2020.

Member, International Scientific Advisory Panel for the project 'Revitalising Informal Settlements and their Environments' (RISE), Monash University, Melbourne.

Member, Editorial Advisory Committee for 'Review of Urban Affairs' of *Economic & Political Weekly* journal.

International Corresponding Editor, *Urban Studies* journal.

Reviewed manuscripts for *International Journal of Housing Policy* and 'Review of Urban Affairs' (*Economic & Political Weekly*).

Reviewed a faculty application for National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru.

PhD guide: MIDS (2 students).

Member, Doctoral Committee: MIDS (4 students).

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Academic Council; (Chair) Internal Complaints Committee; Research Advisory committee; Publication/Editorial committee.

ANANTA KUMAR GIRI

(Coordinator) Eight workshops at MIDS.

K. JAFAR

(Coordinator) National Seminar on 'Union Budget 2020–21', MIDS, Chennai, 13 March 2020.

(Co-Coordinator) National Seminar on 'Union Budget 2019–20', MIDS, Chennai, 9 August 2019.

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: PhD Committee; Publication and Editorial Committee.

Associate Editor, *Review of Development and Change*.

C. LAKSHMANAN

(Coordinator) Two-day National Seminar, Dalit Intellectual Collective, Indian Social Institute, Bengaluru, 22–23 June 2019.

(Co-Coordinator) Academic Writing Workshop for Scheduled Caste MPhil/PhD Scholars, Centre for Dalit and Subaltern Studies, RGNIYD, Sriperumbudur + MIDS, Chennai, 26–27 August 2019.

As an academic activist, intervened on issues pertaining to Dalits, particularly on violence against Dalits.

AJIT MENON

Carson Fellow at the Rachel Carson Center for Environment and Society, Ludwig Maximillian University, Germany (October 2019–January 2020)

Thesis examiner: IIT Bombay (1 student)

Conducted a PhD viva at IIT Bombay

Refereed one journal article for *Economic & Political Weekly*

Member, Doctoral Committee: Ashoka Trust for Research in Ecology and the Environment (3 students), IIT Madras (2) and MIDS (5).

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Academic Council; PhD Committee; Library Committee (Chair).

Managing Editor, *Review of Development and Change*; Associate Editor, *Conservation and Society* and *Maritime Studies*.

PhD guide: MIDS (5 students), Other institutions (2 students).

KRISHANU PRADHAN

(Co-Coordinator) National Seminar on 'Union Budget 2019–20', MIDS, Chennai, 9 August 2019.

Associate Editor, *Review of Development and Change.*

Refereed articles for *Review of Development and Change.*

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Academic Council; Seminar Committee.

K. SIVASUBRAMANIYAN

Attended Executive Council Meeting, Tamil Nadu Rural Transformation Project, Rural Development & Panchayat Raj Department, Secretariat, Chennai, June 2019.

Reviewer, ICSSR–IMPRESS research proposals: 30 (October–November 2019), 25 (November–December 2019).

Member, Expert Committee for Appraisal and Selection of Research Proposal, MHRD–RUSA 2.0 Project , Department of Women Studies, Bharathidasan University, Tiruchirappalli, November 2019.

Examiner, PhD viva voce: Department of Economics, DRBCCC Hindu College, Chennai.

External Examiner, ME viva voce: Integrated Water Resources Management Project Work Phase I (12 students), Centre for Water Resources, Anna University, Chennai, November 2019.

Member, Doctoral Committee: Centre for Research, Anna University, Chennai (4 students).

Expert, news programme on water-related issues in Tamil Nadu: Thanthi TV (7 May 2019); Cauvery TV (10 May 2019); Thanthi TV (13 May 2019); News-J TV (30 May 2019); The NEWS Minute (4 June 2019); Puthiya Thalaimurai TV (14 June 2019); Maalai Murasu TV (13 June 2019); Jaya Plus TV (2 Nobermber 2019); Thanthi TV (18 December 2019).

PhD guide, MIDS (3 students).

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Academic Council; Faculty Seminar Committee (Coordinator).

M. UMANATH

Refereed five journal articles and working papers.

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Academic Council; Research Advisory Committee; Research Ethics Committee

L. VENKATACHALAM

Member of policymaking bodies: Tamil Nadu State Wetland Authority, 2018–2021; Expert Committee on Access and Benefit Sharing (ABS), National Biodiversity Authority, 2018–2020.

Member, Executive Committee, Indian Society for Ecological Economics.

Election Officer, Indian Society for Ecological Economics, 2020.

Member, Panel to Review Agro-Economic Research Centres, ICAR and NIAEPR, New Delhi.

PhD thesis and external examiner: DRBCCC Hindu College, Chennai (1 student); Presidency College, Chennai, (1 student); New College, Chennai (2 students); Department of Econometrics, University of Madras (1 student);

Chairman, Viva voce Committee, Postgraduate programme, RGNIYD, Sriperumpudur, 2019.

External examiner to conduct viva voce exam for 3 postgraduate students at Madras School of Economics, Chennai, May 2019.

Member, Faculty Selection Committee: Department of Economics, University of Mysore; Department of Economics, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur.

Member, Scrutinising Committee, Faculty Recruitment in Economics, University of Madras.

Evaluated the candidature of a faculty at IIT, Guwahati.

Member, Mock Interview Panel, Shankar IAS Academy, Chennai.

Member, Consultation Committee on *International Journal of Contemporary Multi-Disciplinary Research*, Tamil Nadu Open University, Chennai.

External Expert, Task Force to Evaluate the RUSA Activities, Alagappa University, Karaikudi, 2020.

Member, Board of Studies: MBA Programme in Disaster Management, Department of Disaster Management, Alagappa University, Karaikudi; Department of Economics and Rural Development, Alagappa University, Karaikudi; Department of Economics, Stella Maris College, Chennai; Department of Economics, Manonmaniam Sundaranar University, Tirunelveli; Department of Economics, Lady Doak College, Madurai.

Member, Doctoral Committee: Department of Economics, University of Madras (3 students); Madras School of Economics, Chennai (1 student); Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT Madras (2 students); National Institute of Technology Trichy, Tiruchirappalli (2 students); Department of Economics, Central University of Tamil Nadu, Thiruvarur (3 students); Indian Maritime University, Chennai (1 student); MIDS (4 students).

Member, Sweden–India Alumni Network on Water.

Reviewer, ICSSR–IMPRESS project proposals, November 2019.

Refereed a Working Paper for ISEC, Bengaluru.

Managing Editor, *Review of Development and Change*.

PhD guide: MIDS (8 students).

(Lectures) Research Methodology and Advances in Economics. 15 hours. PhD coursework, MIDS, Chennai, April–May 2019.

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Governing Council; Executive Council; Finance Committee; Academic Council; Research Advisory Committee; PhD Committee; Publication and Editorial Committee; Investment Committee; Infrastructure Committee.

A.R. VENKATACHALAPATHY

(Invited speaker) Tamil Writing in the Indian Landscape; Kerala Literature Festival, Kozhikode, January 2020. Also, hosted 'In Conversation with Perumal Murugan'.

(Invited speaker) Krithi International Book and Knowledge Festival, Kochi, February 2020.

(Coordinator) Research Methods Workshop: Making inquiries in Archaeology. 5-day national workshop, MIDS + National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru + Tamil Nadu State Department of Archaeology, 2–6 January 2020.

(Coordinator) Panel discussion and Book Launch on 'Education and Caste in Tamilnadu in the 1950s'. MIDS + IIT Madras + Dilip Veeraraghavan Memorial Trust. 7 February 2020.

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Governing Council; Executive Council; Finance Committee; Academic Council; Internal Quality Assurance Cell; Gender Discrimination Cell; Grievances and Disciplinary Cell; Internal Complaints Committee; Disciplinary Committee (Coordinator); Committee on Research Ethics.

PhD guide: MIDS (3 students).

M. VIJAYABASKAR

(Co-coordinator) Winter School in Social Sciences, in collaboration with The French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP), Puducherry.

(Coordinator) Three seminars by visiting scholars in MIDS.

Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *Oxford Development Studies*.

Member, Editorial Advisory Board, *South Asia Multi-Disciplinary Academic Journal* (SAMAJ).

Permanent Member, Indian Society of Labour Economics.

Core member, Network for Rural and Agrarian Studies.

Member, Faculty Selection Committee: Centre for Development Studies, Thiruvananthapuram; Humanities and Social Sciences Department, IISER, Pune.

Reviewed book manuscript for Oxford University Press.

Refereed articles for *Economic & Political Weekly*, *Nehru Museum and Memorial Library Occasional Paper Series*, *Journal of South Asian Development*, *Contemporary South Asia*, and *Labor History*.

PhD thesis examiner: Ambedkar University, New Delhi; University of Calicut, Kozhikode; Tripura University, Suryamaninagar (Tripura).

Member, Doctoral Committee: University of Paris (1 student); IIT Madras (3 students); RGNIYD, Sriperumbudur (1 student); MIDS (3 students)

PhD guide: MIDS (7 students)

Post-doctoral guide: MIDS (1 scholar)

Member, Councils & Committees at MIDS: Governing Council; Academic Council; PhD Committee; Infrastructure Committee; Purchase and Disposal Committee.

Research Scholars

Publications

Amir, Safwan. **Contempt and Labour: An Exploration through Muslim Barbers of South Asia**, *Religions*, 10 (11), 616, 2019.

Bhattacharya, Anee. **Conceptualizing Transgender in the Indian Context: Contentions and Conundrum**. In Dipak Giri (Ed.), Transgender in Indian context: Rights and activism. AABS Publishing House, 2019.

Michael, Andrew. **Role of Religious Values, Beliefs and Practices in Sustaining Poverty among Hindus and Muslims in India**, in A. Louie Albert, S. Browni Amudha, and P. Theboral (eds), *Religion and Civil Society: Challenges and Responses*. Chennai: Loyola College, 2019.

Suriya, S. **Criminalizing Child Marriage: Contestations, Contradictions and Challenges**, *The International Journal of Analytical and Experimental Modal Analysis*, 11(12), 2019.

Suriya, S. **Gender Matters: 'Socializing' Artificial Intelligence**. *Our Heritage*, 68 (29), 2020.

V., Preetha K. (with Ajit Menon). **Neo-liberalising Energy Production: The Making and Unmaking of an Ultra Mega Power Project in South India**, *Review of Development and Change*, 24 (2): 242–258, 2019.

Papers Presented in Conferences / Workshops

SAFWAN AMIR

The Ethical Dimension of Absence/Presence in Transmitting Sunnah: Rethinking the Ulama-Qussas Conflict. International Conference on 'Hadith and Ethics: Concepts, Approaches and Theoretical Foundations', Research Centre for Islamic Legislation and Ethics, Hamad bin Khalifa University, Doha (Qatar), 30 April 2019.

The Caste Conundrum: Marriage in the Islamic Tradition. International Conference on 'Islamic Traditions and Practices in South India', Department of Historical Studies, The New College, Chennai, 2 March 2020.

SURABI G.

Agribusiness Contracts and the Paper Industry, 5th International Conference on Economic Growth and Sustainable Development: Emerging Trends, Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara Institute for Management Development, Mysore, 15–16 November 2019.

ARUN BHARATHY J.

Caste, Rural Non-Farm employment and the Quest for Dignity. Dr John Matthai Memorial National Conference on 'Development and Resilience among Dalits in India: Understanding Diversity between and within States', Department of Economics, University of Calicut, Thrissur (Kerala) in collaboration with Kerala Institute of Local Administration Thrissur, Kerala, 9–11 January 2020.

SANKARA PANDI K.

(Presented a paper) Dr John Matthai Memorial National Conference on 'Development and Resilience among Dalits in India: Understanding Diversity between and within States', Department of Economics, University of Calicut, Thrissur (Kerala) in collaboration with Kerala Institute of Local Administration Thrissur, Kerala, 9–11 January 2020.

TITU MAHANTA

Institutions, Quality Upgrading and Price of Green Tea Leaves: Study of Small Tea Growers of Assam. National Seminar on Agricultural Transformation and Rural Development in India: Issues, Challenges and Possibilities, Department of Economics,

Hemvati Nandan Bahuguna Garhwal University, Srinagar (Uttarakhand) in collaboration with Indian Economic Association, 12 October 2019.

JIJIN P.

Macroeconomic Effects of Remittances through Investment Channel: Evidence from India. Annual Economics Conference on 'Sustainability, Equity and Development', Sarla Anil Modi School of Economics, NMIMS, Mumbai (with The Indian Econometric Society), 7 March 2020.

ANDREW MICHAEL S.

The Determinants of Socio-cultural Life of the Excluded Community with Specific Reference to Transgenders in Tamil Nadu and **Women Development and Persistence of Cultural Hegemony in MGNREGS: A Socio-Cultural Reality from Tamil Nadu**. All India Sociological conference on 'Environment, Culture and Development: Discourses and Intersections', Indian Sociological Society, with University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, 27–29 December 2019.

MUHAMMED ASLAM E.S.

Literacy, Print Culture and Public Sphere, International Seminar on Re-Imagining Malabar: Analyzing the Contours of Historical Archives, Department of History, MAMO College, Kozhikode, 27–28 November 2019.

BODDU SRUJANA

Informal Work in New Formal Spaces: Segmentation, Mobility, and Future of Work in the Age of Globalisation. 61st Indian Society of Labour Economics Annual Conference, Patiala, 7–9 December 2019.

S. SURIYA

Gender Matters: Socializing Artificial Intelligence', International Conference on 'Design Thinking Prototype: From Ideation to Innovation—A Quintessence Mapping', Ethiraj College for Women, Chennai, 10–11 February 2020.

PREETHA K.V.

Role of Locals and Civil Society Organisations in Ensuring a Sustainable World, National Conference on 'Towards a Sustainable World: Revisiting Social Work Theory and Practice', Department of Social Work, Sree Sankaracharya University of Sanskrit, Kalady (Kerala), 30–31 January, 2020.

Politics and Dynamics of Environmental Governance in India: Case Study of a Proposed Ultra Mega Power Project in Tamil Nadu, International Conference on 'The Environment and Sustainable Futures', Department of Social Work, Stella Maris College, Chennai, with United Board, University of Louisville (USA) and University of Alabama (USA), 9–10 December 2019.

Participation in Conferences / Workshops

MUHAMMAD SHAFEEQUE ALIPARAMBIL

Econometric Tools for Business and Finance. International conference, St. Joseph's College, Kozhikode, 4–6 December 2019.

Agriculture Towards A Paradigm Shift: Mass Farming to Class Farming. National seminar, St. Joseph's College, Kozhikode, 19–20 February 2020.

SURABI G.

Development Banking and Inclusive Growth: Emerging Trends. Workshop, Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara Institute for Management Development, Mysore, 14 November 2019.

5th International Conference on Economic Growth and Sustainable Development: Emerging Trends. Shri Dharmasthala Manjunatheshwara Institute for Management Development, Mysore, 15–16 November 2019.

Fishercoast Team Workshop. The French Institute of Pondicherry (IFP), Puducherry, 11–15 February 2020.

BRINDA G. KRISHNAN

Second Policy Conference and Mentoring Workshop of the Network of Rural and Agrarian Studies. Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi, 26–28 September 2019.

TITU MAHANTA

Second policy Conference and Mentoring Workshop of the Network of Rural and Agrarian Studies (NRAS) held at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi from 26-28 September, 2019.

ANDREW MICHAEL S.

All India Sociological Conference on 'Environment, Culture and Development: Discourses and Intersections'. Indian Sociological Society, with University of Kerala, Thiruvananthapuram, 27–29 December 2019.

(Conducted) Human Rights. One-day seminar, Loyola College, Chennai, 11 December 2019.

(Conducted) Welfare of the Transgender. One-day national workshop, Loyola College, Chennai, 17 December 2019.

MUHAMMED ASLAM E.S.

(Conference Organising Secretary) International Conference on Islamic Traditions and Practices in South India, Department of Historical Studies, The New College, Chennai, 2 March 2020.

Presentations at MIDS

Date	Scholar	Title
27 July 2019	Simi Mariya Thomas	A Study on Economics of Religious Organisations Using Experimental Method
	Chandrasekar D.	Dalits and Social Capital
	Jijin P.	Macroeconomic Effects of Remittances through Investment Channel
	Brinda G. Krishnan	Ecological Changes and Agro Value Chains: A Study on Smallholder Livelihoods
	Muhammad Shafeeque Aliparambil	Institutional Interventions and Transaction Costs in Agriculture: A Study of the Weekly Market Programme in Kerala
	Gargi Sridharan	Resource Allocation and Happiness at the Household Level: An Economic Analysis
	Rituparna Borah	Ecotourism and Neoliberal Governance: A Study of the Political Ecology of Majuli
	Muhammed Aslam E.S.	Missionary–Muslim Encounters: Engagement between Basel Mission and Mappila Muslims in Colonial Malabar (1840–1940)
	Safwan Amir	Ethnographic and Historical Study of the Kerala Muslim Barber Community
	Kokilavani S.	History of Propaganda Documentary Films in Colonial Tamil Nadu (1939–1945)
	Firsha V.	Spirit Possession among Muslim Women in Kerala
	Pema Choden Bhutia	Estimating the Recreational Value of Ecotourism Benefits: Travel Cost Method
	Balamurugan S.	Economic Instruments for Environmental Protection: Payment for Ecosystem Services and Water Resource Management
	Rahul Reghu	The Politics of Tribal Development in Kerala: A Case Study on Kadar Tribal Community in Thrissur District

Date	Scholar	Title
27 January 2020	Pema Choden Bhutia	Estimating the Recreational Value of Ecotourism Benefits: Travel Cost Method
	Balamurugan S.	Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services of Veeranam Lake
	Anjaly Baby	Poverty: A Behavioural Economics Approach
	Gargi Sridharan	Measurement of Happiness and Wellbeing at the Household Level: Theoretical and Methodogical Issues
	Brinda G. Krishnan	Supply Chains and Local Ecology
	Simi Mariya Thomas	Faith-based Organisations (FBOs) and Their Role in Hunger Reduction and Human Capital Development
28 January 2020	Boddu Srujana	Mobility and Segmentation in Urban Informal Labour Markets: The Case of Hyderabad city
	Titu Mahanta	Institutions, Upgrading and Livelihoods: A Study of Small Tea Growers of Assam
	Jijin P.	Migration and Remittances
	Anee Bhattacharyya	Understanding Transgender Space and Everyday Life: An Ethnography in Assam
	Rahul Reghu	The Politics of Tribal Development in Kerala: A Case Study of Kadars

12. Visiting Scholars

Affiliates

Scholar	Research Topic	Guide
Sarah Elizabeth Hodges Professor, Department of History, University of Warwick, Coventry, UK	The Making of 'India: Affordable Pharmacy to the World', 1970–Present (with particular attention to Tamil Nadu)	S. Anandhi
Nidhi Subramaniyan PhD Student, City & Regional Planning, Cornell University, USA	Planning at the Periphery: Producing the Infrastructure of Growth and Governance in a Secondary City	M. Vijayabaskar
Ieva Zumbyte PhD Student, Department of Sociology, Brown University, USA	The Social, Economic, and Political Conditions that can Explain Variations in Public Childcare Provision within a City in the Global South	A. Kalaiyarasan
	Childcare Arrangements in Urban Settlements in India (Doctoral dissertation project)	Karen Coelho

ICSSR Senior Fellow

Scholar	Research Topic	Period
V. Gurumoorthy Former Associate Professor and Head (Sociology), Human Resource Development Department, Rani Anna Government College for Women, Tirunelveli	Sociological Perspective of Agriculture in Tamil Nadu: A Comparative Study between Organic and Chemical Fertiliser-based Farming	23 January 2020 to 22 January 2022

Visiting Fellow

Scholar	Period	Public Lecture
Sujata Patel National Fellow, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla	2–12 August 2019	Social Theory Today 6 August 2019

13. Events

Public Lecture

Social Theory Today, *Sujata Patel*, National Fellow, Indian Institute of Advanced Study, Shimla, 6 August 2019.

What is social theory? Why is it significant today? What is its relationship to the contemporary globalising world? Drawing on emerging scholarship on decolonising knowledge and epistemic justice, Professor Patel unravelled how teaching, research, and learning have been homogenised since the 19th century and institutionalised globally in the 21st century.

Workshops / Discussions

Book Discussions and Launches

(Book Discussion) **Caste Matters** (by Suraj Yengde) (with Penguin India)
Coordinator: C. Lakshmanan, 23 July 2019.

Ambedkar, Gandhi and Patel: The Making of India's Electoral System (by Raja Sekhar Vundru)
Coordinator: C. Lakshmanan, 26 August 2019.

Interrogating Communalism (by Salah Punathil)
Coordinator: A. Kalaiyarasan, 13 December 2019.

(Book Launch and Discussion) **Half a Day for Caste? Education and Politics in Tamil Nadu, 1952–55** (by D. Veeraraghavan) (with Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, IIT-Madras and The Dilip Veeraraghavan Memorial Trust)
Coordinator: A.R. Venkatachalapathy, 7 February 2020.

Workshops

Dynamics and Determinants of Affordable Housing in Chennai
Coordinator: Karen Coelho, 22 July 2019.

Grace: Travel, Truth and Translation
Coordinator: Ananta Kumar Giri, 24 July 2019.

Chennai Maps Project
Coordinator: Karen Coelho, 5 August 2019.

New Horizons of Spirituality, Society and Alternative Human Future
Coordinator: Ananta Kumar Giri, 9 August 2019.

Transforming Caste Domination and the Challenges of Structural Transformation and Transformation of Consciousness: Ambedkar, Shankara and Beyond
Coordinator: Ananta Kumar Giri, 9 August 2019.

Rethinking Aesthetics, History and Epistemology: Beyond Eurocentrism and Cultivating New Paths of Understanding and Alternative Futures
Coordinator: Ananta Kumar Giri, 12 August 2019.

Academic Writing Workshop for Scheduled Caste MPhil/PhD Scholars (2 days) (with Centre for Dalit and Subaltern Studies, Rajiv Gandhi National Institute of Youth Development, Sriperumbudur, Tamil Nadu)
Coordinator: C. Lakshmanan, 26–27 August 2019.

New Horizons of Resisting Authoritarianism, Cultural Work for Freedom, and Cross-Cultural Encounters: India, Germany, and the World
Coordinator: Ananta Kumar Giri, 9 September 2019.

Cultivating Transforming Faith and a New Ecology of Hope
Coordinator: Ananta Kumar Giri, 1 November 2019.

Critique of Political Economy and Alternative Planetary Futures: Political Economy, Moral Economy, Moral Sociology, Spiritual Ecology and Beyond
Coordinator: Ananta Kumar Giri, 15 November 2019.

Dalit Women in Contemporary India and the Quest for Equity
Coordinator: C. Lakshmanan, 15 November 2019.

Border Crossing Meeting & Storytelling/Writing (2.5 days)
Coordinator: S. Anandhi, 19–21 December 2019.

Making Inquiries in Archaeology (5 days) (with National Institute of Advanced Studies, Bengaluru and Department of Archaeology, Government of Tamil Nadu)
Coordinator: A.R. Venkatachalapathy, 2–6 January 2020.

Global Health Inequalities (Special thematic lectures for students from Furman University, USA)
Coordinator: Kripa Ananthpur, 12 February 2020.

Rethinking Development, Development Studies and A New Art of Border Crossing
Coordinator: Ananta Kumar Giri, 17 March 2020.

Short Course

Decision Theory by *P.G. Babu*
Coordinator: L. Venkatachalam. Started 27 February 2020. Lectures were held also on 5 March and 12 March.

Seminars by Faculty and Visiting Scholars

Economic Transformation of China (1978–2018): Achievements and Challenges

Jacob Kurien, Professor of International Economics, The Johns Hopkins–Nanjing University, Nanjing, China, 2 May 2019.

In today's gobal politics and economics, the most discussed issues are the rise of China and the internationalisation of RMB. The pace of economic growth and the reduction of poverty are unprecedented. China's goal is to build a modern harmonious and creative society through inclusive growth and rebalancing. The economy is in the process of transitioning from being investment- and export-driven to a consumption-driven economy. The Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) has integrated over 60 countries including Italy, which is the first G-7 nation to join BRI. RMB is now the 6th most used currency for trading purpose, and it has also been included in the SDR basket of currencies. The challenges are both institutional and structural. China has the resilience to overcome these challenges if it resolutely pursues policies to address some of the critical social and economic issues. The China Dream is all about supporting the great revival of the Chinese nation.

Growth-Maximising Fiscal Rule Targets in India

Krishanu Pradhan, Assistant Professor, MIDS, 27 June 2019.

The paper estimates growth-maximising debt-to-GDP ratio (d*) in the Indian context from a theoretical framework of Ramsey-type growth model developed by David Alan Aschauer (2000) and Christina Checherita-Westphal and others (2014). The output elasticity of public capital (α) plays a crucial role in determining d* under golden rule of budgetary deficit. Based on the estimate of α, the computed value of d* is around 65%, significantly lower than the current debt-to-GDP ratio (73% in 2016). Since a large share of India's fiscal deficit is due to the revenue deficit, the effective value of d* would be even lower. The study results have policy implications. Since the value of d* is significantly lower than the current level, and as the large revenue deficit is persisting, fiscal tightening by central and state governments should not be postponed. It should be more aggressive than suggested by the growth-maximising debt-to-GDP ratio.

Maritime Security of India in the 21st Century

Aswani R.S., University of Petroleum and Energy Studies, Dehradun, 8 July 2019.

With the rise of China and India, the centre of geopolitical power is shifting to Asia. Besides conventional security tensions, the Indian Ocean Region is sensitive to non-traditional concerns, such as global warming, ocean acidification, illegal fishing, maritime terrorism, and piracy. The seminar (1) discussed the significance of the Indian Ocean (2) identified the major political threats and challenges for India in the Indian Ocean Region (3) argued for a security paradigm inclusive of Non-Traditional issues, and propose strategies for peace and cooperation.

Managing Wetlands: Role of Economic Valuation of Ecosystem Services

L. Venkatachalam, RBI Chair Professor, MIDS, 26 July 2019.

Depreciation of wetlands due to negative externalities imposes social costs and leads to loss of economic welfare. By re-allocating scarce resources, we can internalise the negative externalities and improve the quality of wetlands. From a public policy angle, the social costs of the allocation and the resulting social benefits will have to be equal at margin. But when most ecosystem services fall outside the market domain, how can social benefits be assessed in monetary terms? Values derived from macro methods, such as benefit transfer based on meta-analysis, do not usually meet the external validity criterion. Should we instead adopt micro-valuation techniques, such as production

function approach, travel cost method, and choice experiments? What are the issues with micro valuation techniques? The talk put forward a methodology for estimating the economic value of wetland ecosystem services in the context of a proposed study of select wetlands in Tamil Nadu.

Remaking Landscapes, Reshaping Palates

Richa Kumar, Associate Professor of Sociology and Policy Studies, Indian Institute of Technology Delhi, New Delhi, 8 August 2019.

In western Uttar Pradesh, guided by a discourse of modernisation and technology-driven change, the state is remaking agricultural landscapes, and reshaping palates and diets. The shift to intensive monoculture agriculture, in tandem with the interests of private capital, has commodified specific agrarian resources (leading to the demise of others), and in turn, shaped aspirations surrounding food consumption. We argue that this has led to a nutritional crisis in rural Awadh. This research challenges the dominant narrative of scarcity and hunger redeemed by the green revolution. While hunger in the past was shaped by traditional power relationships, malnutrition today seamlessly crosses boundaries of privileg.

Union Budget 2019–20

Featuring *Pinaki Chakraborty*, Chief–Social Policy, UNICEF Chennai;
Rajalaxmi Kamath, Associate Professor, Indian Institute of Management, Bengaluru;
Narayanamoorthy A., Professor of Economics, Alagappa University, Karaikudi;
Suresh Babu M., Professor, Department of Humanities and Social Sciences, Indian Institute of Technology Madras, Chennai;
A. Kalaiyarasan and *K. Jafar*, Assistant Professors, MIDS;
9 August 2019.

The budget was presented in the context of a set of challenges, including stagnant investment and industrial activities, lacklustre growth in bank credit, tepid growth of exports, drought, and distress in the rural economy. The national seminar focused on key aspects like macroeconomic prospects, concerns of public finance, sectoral issues (agriculture, industry, and services) and challenges in social sector development.

***Tamil Thanmai*: A Historical Ethnography of Public Political Lives in Tamil Nadu (1950–1970)**

Ponni Arasu, Historian, Chennai, 20 August 2019.

In Tamil Nadu, the period between 1950 and 1970, before the consolidation of state power and political discourses, helps us understand the history of political formations from the perspective of the everyday lives of its ordinary members. Using a spatial analysis, and from in-depth interviews, personal and public archives, and textual and visual sources, Ponni Arasu documents the lives of men in Sulur town in Coimbatore District who were engaged in public politics. Based on this narrative, she proposes a historically grounded analytical framework (*TamilThanmai*) which describes the essence of public political lives that provided a way of being and sense of self for all those who lived it. She focuses on Dalit public political lives, the affective ties that hold together the non-Brahmin–non-Dalit men engaged in such lives, and the embodiment of such a politics through physical training culture. *TamilThanmai* helps us understand the persistence of caste-based thinking and masculinisation of public political lives in Tamil Nadu.

Structural Change in Tamil Nadu, 1980–2010: Limits of Sub-National Development
A. Kalaiyarasan, Assistant Professor, MIDS, 6 September 2019.

Tamil Nadu has been recognised for sustaining growth with human development outcomes. Since 1980, its per capita income has risen to be one among the highest in India. Despite structural transformation—through growth that is multi-sectoral, spatially widespread, and socially inclusive—a mismatch persists in some sectors between the proportions of income generated and the workforce engaged. By providing entitlements through welfare measures outside the workplace, the state has supported workers to an extent and sustained the growth process. But structural issues, such as inadequate job opportunities for educated youth and stagnancy of agriculture remain unresolved. Moving beyond the current literature on welfare interventions, this study links such interventions to the process of economic growth in Tamil Nadu.

Theories of Change in Rural Transformation: Critical Review and A Way Forward
K. Sivasubramaniyan, Professor, MIDS and *V. Rengarajan*, Senior Consultant, MIDS Project, 1 October 2019.

As an evaluation tool, Theory of Change has long been used by international aid agencies and public authorities investing in social interventions for inclusion, gender empowerment, and poverty cure in rural areas. But, after project implementation, do we get a candid profile of change (impact)? What are the investigation gaps while evaluating change? Are there any convolutions in the theory of change? Based on evaluations of rural development programmes, we argue that a refined theory of change should include the following critical constituents: process monitoring; monitoring and evaluation; transparent outcomes and impact; and human behaviour.

Urban Waterlines: Water Infrastructures and the Politics of Indifference in Chennai
Karen Coelho, Associate Professor, MIDS, 24 October 2019.

Karen Coelho examines the makings of the political agency of urban water in the creation of social difference and indifference. Waterlines are conceived here as material formations that set out to channel, contain, restrict or accelerate water, and are ultimately effected by pushbacks, diversions, outbreaks, or the subsidence and vanishing of water. Urban waterlines are dialectically assembled by the workings of water in two distinct registers: first, as a dynamic substance structured through social and hydrological histories, and second, as a relatively autonomous natural element that resists or exceeds these makings. The paper discusses three kinds of urban waterlines: boundaries, flows, and infrastructures, illustrating how these lines operate to effect social differentiation and naturalise social indifference.

Making the World a Better Place: Restitution and Restoration in Development
Barbara Harriss-White, Emeritus Professor of Development Studies, Oxford University, UK, 3 October 2019.

If we are to understand the array of therapeutic political responses advanced to address the degradation of our natural habitat, we need to try to understand the physical and social processes causing it. Only then can we grasp the implications of the failure to mainstream restitution and restoration into the study and practice of development. The air will be used as case material. This talk is presented as work in progress.

Services Trade and Choice of Industries: Studying Intergenerational Mobility of Indian Workers
Saikat Sinha Roy, Professor, Department of Economics, Jadavpur University, Kolkata, 6 November 2019.

The paper explores impact of growing services trade on the intergenerational job choice of the Indian households/workers towards as well as within services industry. Using NSSO data on employment-unemployment surveys for the period 1999–2000 to 2011–12 together with TSD_February_2015 data and UN Services trade data on India's services exports for the period 1995–96 to 2011–12, persistence is observed in intergenerational job choice, i.e., sons remain in the same industry as that of their fathers. The probit estimation shows that father's occupation and status has significant positive impact on persistence. Father's education above higher secondary level also has a significant positive impact on persistence. However, higher level of son's education and services export performance reduce the degree of persistence.

At the Intersection of Class and Gender: Unpaid Care Work and Macroeconomic Regimes
Srinivasan Raghavendran, Lecturer Above the Bar, J.E. Cairnes School of Business and Economics, National University of Ireland Galway, Ireland, 8 November 2019.

From a gender perspective, a fundamental challenge in Macroeconomics is that of incorporating the unpaid care work that produces market labour in the circuit of commodity production. This paper aims to provide a theoretical framework to analyse the link between unpaid labour and the macroeconomy, particularly in the context of the interrelation between distribution of income and aggregate demand. Here, Raghavendran extends the Kaleckian framework to explore the link. The analysis reveals interesting implications for class conflict and cooperation in various macroeconomic regimes when viewed through the intersection between gender and class.

Orientation seminar for Urban Fellows from Indian Institute for Human Settlements
Karen Coelho, Associate Professor, MIDS, and others, 19 November 2019.

The Indian Institute for Human Settlements (IIHS, Bengaluru) organises a two-week Immersion Trip as part of its annual Urban Fellows programme, to give the fellows an exposure to critical issues on the ground. In 2019, the fellows visited Chennai. Karen Coelho organised a field visit for the team (comprising 15 fellows and 2 IIHS faculty members), to resettlement colonies in the southern peripheries of the city, preceded by a seminar at MIDS to orient them to issues of slum resettlement and affordable housing in Chennai.

Perspectives on Financial Inclusion: Lessons Drawn from China, *Jacob Kurien*, Professor of International Economics, The Johns Hopkins–Nanjing University, Nanjing, China, 28 November 2019.

Financial Inclusion is the pursuit of making financial services accessible at affordable costs to all individuals and businesses, irrespective of net worth and size. In Development Economics, financial inclusion is considered as a way to increase economic growth for reducing poverty and enhancing well-being. Financial inclusion in China has been transformed significantly in recent years. New financial products and services are offered via digital-enabled Agent Banking business model. As the largest single market for financial services, China has achieved remarkable success in financial

inclusion and is a leader in fintech revolution. The rate of account ownership is on par with that of G-20 countries. However, 1.7 billion adults remain unbanked. Challenges need to be addressed to leverage financial inclusion to support complementary economic and social development goals. China's multifaceted experience with financial inclusion provides lessons for countries in meeting their own financial inclusion objectives.

Women's Health Care & Child Delivery System: Issues and Challenges, *P. Sivakami*, Former IAS officer, Chennai, and *Rev. Pearly Walter*, Theologian, Chennai, 11 December 2019.

C-section (caesarean delivery) is a major surgery involving risks. Women are three times more likely to die during caesarean delivery than a normal one. Unnecessary c-section puts strain on the family and burdens the health system. Do rural, less-privileged women prefer normal delivery or C-section? How are caeasarian operations for women in rural areas different from those in urban areas? The Forum for Indian Women Intellect surveyed a village in Tamil Nadu to know about the prevalence of C-section deliveries, decisionmaking around such deliveries, clinical outcomes, and lived experiences. In this seminar, the researchers present their findings and discuss solutions to reduce C-section deliveries among rural women.

A Possible Anthropology: Methods for Uneasy Times, *Anand Pandian*, Professor of Anthropology, Krieger School of Arts and Sciences, Johns Hopkins University, Baltimore, US, 10 January 2020.

In a time of intense uncertainty, social strife, and ecological upheaval, what does it take to envision the world as it yet may be? The field of anthropology, Anand Pandian argues, has resources essential for this critical and imaginative task. Anthropology is no stranger to injustice and exploitation. Still, its methods can reveal unseen dimensions of the world at hand and radical experience as the seed of a humanity yet to come. A Possible Anthropology is an ethnography of anthropologists at work: canonical figures, ethnographic storytellers, and artists and indigenous activists inspired by the field. In their company, Pandian explores the moral and political horizons of anthropological inquiry, the critical and transformative potential of an experimental practice.

Caste and the Business of Democracy: A Qualitative Study of Gram Panchayat Election in Rural Karnataka, *Kripa Ananthpur*, Associate Professor, MIDS, 19 February 2020.

Over the decade, panchayat budgets in Karnataka have seen a staggering increase. Can increased devolution of funds lead to social change? What has been its impact on local democracy, especially on political contestation and caste at the panchayat level? This seminar, based on a ten-year ethnographic study in 26 villages of Gulbarga and Raichur districts in northern Karnataka, shows a dualistic but intertwined model of local democracy emerging in a region where economic opportunities are limited. Even as traditional political players use the local political space to regroup and remobilise to maintain caste cohesion, the new entrants, particularly non-dominant castes and educated youth, craft new forms of inter- and intra-caste alliances to stake economic and political claims.

Culture of the Indian Nomads: The Story of an INTACH Project, *G.N. Devy*, Scholar and cultural activist, and Founder, Adivasi Academy, Tejgadh, Gujarat, 6 March 2020.

The colonial government had difficulty in understanding social complexities in India. A tragic result of their cognitive failure was the creation of a category of communities wrongly described as 'criminal tribes'. The 1871 Criminal Tribes of India Act barred these communities from free movement and restricted them to 'settlements'. Their number was not insignificant. By 1924, the total number of such communities had crossed 200. They were kept in confinement and prevented from holding

land. After independence, the CTs were de-notified. Therefore, they are now known as 'Denotified and Nomadic Tribes' (DNT). The estimated population of the DNTs in India is over 12 crores today. They are the most deprived among the deprived classes of people. INTACH had undertaken a large project of documenting their culture. The talk is about the project and the outcome of the project and is illustrated with colour-slides showing the arts and the craft of the DNTs.

Union Budget 2020–21, 13 March 2020.

Featuring *Manoj Panda*, RBI Chair Professor, Institute of Economic Growth, Delhi;
Barendra Kumar Bhoi, Former Head, Monetary Policy Department, RBI, Mumbai;
Vidya Mahambare, Professor & Chairperson, UB–GL Centre for Banking Excellence, Great Lakes Institute of Management, Chennai;
D. Sampath Kumar, Former Editor, 'The Hindu BusinessLine', Chennai;
Sukhpal Singh, Professor & Chairperson, Centre for Agriculture, Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad; and
Veeramani C., Professor, Indira Gandhi Institute of Development Research, Mumbai.

The economists recognised the need for a fiscal stimulus but were concerned about the rising revenue deficit and the rising debt-to-GDP ratio. The speakers identified "good moves" in the Budget, such as the Rs. 1.6 lakh crore allocation to agriculture and the blue economy, focus on 100 water-stressed districts, attention promised to agri-warehousisng and cold storage sector, promotion of Farmer Producer Organisations (FPOs), as well as the overall effort in structural reform. They flagged an impending search for jobs and income, doubted the wisdom of a target-oriented approach to people's institutions like FPOs, argued for a global integration approach than import-substitution, and cautioned about tariff inversion. One speaker opined that the relevance of the budget has declined because of the government's pre-budget measures, increased role of GST Council, extra-budgetary resources, and a global trend of moving towards rule-based fiscal policy. Experts at the seminar agreed that high unemployment and slower rate of growth were challenges. A stable government at the Centre and falling crude oil prices were positive developments. Opinion, however, was divided on the impact of the spread of Corona disease. While some felt that India may benefit from the slowdown in Chinese growth, others noted that the key question was whether global economic demand would fall.

14. MIDS Publications

Book

(Reprint) Neelakantan, S. *Adam Smith Mutal Karl Marx Varai: Cevviyal Araciyal Porulaataaram* (Adam Smith to Karl Marx: An Introduction to Classical Political Economy). 2019/2012. Co-published with Kalachuvadu Publications.

Journal

Review of Development and Change (Co-published with SAGE Publications)
ISSN 0972-2661; Online ISSN: 2632-055X

- Vol. 24, No. 1, June 2019
- Vol. 24, No. 2, December 2019

In 2019–20, the journal was included in the journals' list of University Grants Commission's Consortium for Academic and Research Ethics (UGC–CARE).

Working Papers

233 M. Vijayabaskar and P.K. Viswanathan. *Emerging Vulnerabilities in India's Tea Plantation Economy: A Critical Engagement with Policy Response*. April 2019.

234 Rajiv Sethi and Rohini Somanathan. *Meritocracy in the Face of Group Inequality*. June 2019.

235 K. Sivasubramaniyan. *Water Management of Two Major System Tanks according to* Mamulnamas. September 2019.

236 Umanath Malaiarasan, K. Thomas Felix, and R. Paramasivam. *Households' Energy Choice and Demand in Tamil Nadu*. November 2019.

237 Chandra Mallampalli. *Re-examining Cultural Accommodation and Difference in the Historiography of South Indian Catholicism*. December 2019.

Research Brief

1 MIDS (with Umanath Malaiarasan). *How Can We Meet the Growing Demand for Sugar?* January 2020.

15. Support Services

Administration

The Administration section reported the following activities in 2019–20:

Grants: Corresponding with the funding agencies, ICSSR, and Government of Tamil Nadu; submitting claim towards the sanction and release of Grant; forwarding the grant-in-aid bill and utilisation certificate to ICSSR and Government of Tamil Nadu.

Projects: Assisting the faculty with signing of MOU with funding agencies, forwarding the project proposal, all project-related appointment, submission of grant-in-aid bill and utilisation certificate, and forwarding the unspent balance and final report to the funding agencies.

Malcolm & Elizabeth Adiseshiah (M&EA) Trust: All correspondence relating to request for support for research and academic activities, PhD fellowship, Founder's Day Lecture, and other academic programmes.

RBI Chair and other Endowments: All correspondence with RBI relating to Annual Plan, submission of progress report and utilisation statement; assisting the Professor of RBI Chair in official matters; Ford Foundation and Union Planning Commission endowments.

Affiliation: Dealing with Affiliate-related issues, including approval, preparation of academic certificate, and updation of details of Affiliate (joining, academic performance and exit, etc.) in website of Foreigners Regional Registration Officer from time to time.

Appointment of Fellows (ICSSR Senior Fellow, Visiting Professor/Fellow, Post-Doctoral Fellow): Preparing the approval note and issuing appointment letter, forwarding joining report, forwarding six-month report, and submitting of grant-in-aid bill to ICSSR.

PhD programme: Facilited the PhD programme, by issuing the advertisement for admission; assisting the PhD Committee in admission (shortlisting of candidates, conduct of written test and oral interview, publication of results, issue of admission letters); coordinating with candidates to get their University admission, registration and formation of Research Advisory Committee; conducting biannual seminars; and assisting scholars in submission of synopsis and thesis, getting award communication, etc.

Miscellaneous: Handled service matters of academic and non-academic employees of MIDS, including, appointment, promotion, fixation of pay, maintaining the leave, retirement, settlement of terminal benefits, etc.; undetook all campus maintenance work, including civil and electrical; logistics assistance for air-tickets; accommodation booking; transport arrangements; providing tea, snacks, lunch for all meetings; and renewal of insurance for buildings and cars.

In 2019–20, the Administration Section arranged for non-academic staff from various sections to attend training programmes at the Anna Institute of Management, as follows:

Staff	Period	Topic
A. Arivazhagan	29–31 October 2019	Organisational Excellence
E. Lakshmanakumar	6–8 November 2019	Stress Management
S. Thirupurasundari	11 November 2019	Income Tax Planning
S. Thirupurasundari	20–22 November 2019	Database Applications Using MS Access
N. Cibi	2–4 December 2019	Office Procedures
B. Azhagarsami	2 December 2019	Income Tax Planning and Investment Planning
S. Thirupurasundari	6 January 2020	Income Tax Planning and Investment Planning

Finance

The Finance section reported the following activities in 2019–20:

Sources of Finance: Handled funding from ICSSR, matching grant from Government of Tamil Nadu, Corpus endowed by RBI, Corpus endowed by Planning Commission, Corpus fund of the institute, M&EA Trust (for Fellowship and Founder's Day Programme), and Other receipts (such as affiliation charges, user charges for the use of auditorium for public affairs events by other agencies).

Accounting: Accounting all receipts and monitoring the proper utilisation of receipt; Payroll for regular staff and project staff; maintaining separate accounts for each funding agency; preparing the detailed financial statement for each account and consolidated financial statement; preparation of budget estimates for 'Plan' and 'Non-Plan' under Institute's main accounts for approval by the FC/EC/GC/BOT; Cash Flow and Funds Flow Statement.

Statutory Compliance: Ensuring statutory compliance, return filing, and remittance are within the due date for PF, ESI, TDS, IT Return, and FCRA.

Projects: Preparing the utilisation statement for the funding agency as per their prescribed format; sending the monthly utilisation statement of project accounts to the Project Director to intimate the funds position and availability of funds under each budget head.

Co-ordination: With academic, non-academic, and project staff; with EC/FC/GC/AC/BOT (meeting detail preparation); with funding agencies; With auditors (Comptroller and Auditor General of India, Local Fund Audit department of Government of Tamil Nadu, and Statutory auditor.)

Investment: Maintaining the investment and ensuring the plough back deposit as per the condition of the endowments. Monitoring the maturity date of the investment to intimate to the management to take an appropriate decision.

Information Technology

The IT infrastructure in MIDS consists of state-of-the-art computing facilities with the latest hardware, software, and supporting equipment. As of March 2019, the Institute has around 80 Intel-based Desktops and 13 Notebooks (with Windows 10 / 8.1 / 7 / XP), 23 multi-function printers, laser printers, scanners, LCD Projectors, and digital display for presentation. Office automation packages used at MIDS include Open Office, MS Office 2016, Adobe Readers, Statistical software (SPSS, Stata, Eviews), DTP software (Adobe Creative Cloud for Teams), Accounting software (Tally ERP), under Windows environment.

Services: Linux-based web server hosted in the campus works 24 x 7 x 365. A structured Ethernet-based Local Area Network and Wi-Fi is configured in the campus. A Linux-based library automation server is configured using LIBSYS software. The Institute has two Internet Service Providers, i.e., from National Knowledge Network (Government of India) and Tata Communications Ltd, for e-mail and Internet facilities. A centralised antivirus EPO server is installed in the campus using McAfee Endpoint Protection Suite. The IT Section provides IT support for the members of faculty, staff, and students.

The IT Section undertook the following new activities in 2019–20:

Procurement / Upgrades / Maintenance

- Twenty Dell OptiPlex Intel Core i7 desktops, and 20 HP M 226 multi-function printers were purchased through ELCOT.
- Three laptops were purchased for project use (1 each for TNHPS, Equip, and Wetland).
- Two Tablet PCs were purchased for the Wetland project.
- One Barcode printer was purchased for the library to print barcode labels.
- Wacom Cintiq 16 interactive digital pad was purchased to enhance our teaching and presentation methods in the conference hall.
- Renewed the annual subscription and maintenance related to licenses (anti-virus, Tally ERP, Adobe Creative Cloud for Teams) and AMC for server-room UPS.

Development

- Upgraded MIDS website with php, html, and java scripts.
- Uploaded working papers from 1991 to MIDS website.
- Migrated the mail server (Linux-based Zimbra mailing solution) to Google G Suite. Transferred all the users and their data from Zimbra to G Suite without data loss.
- Installed and customised Koha (Ubuntu) for the Institute library. Data migration and library routine customisation are pending.
- Configured Snipe-IT for digitalising inventory management and easy asset tracking, and initiated testing.

Library

MIDS Library caters to students, faculty, and the general public. It has 61,402 printed documents and subscribes to 108 journals. The library subscribes to 55 international and 53 Indian periodicals. Of these, 56 are available through online access. In 2019–20, MIDS Library added 504 items to its collection, of which 194 were back issues of journals.

The library uses LIBSYS software for in-house operations. The library offers online services (Online Public Access Catalogue, e-Journals, Databases, Digital library) and customised services (Reference, Document delivery, Reprography, Periodic updates to faculty and students regarding new arrivals, Information/bibliographic service, and Inter-library loan).

Databases (many on CD-ROM/DVD) include

- the Census of India; National Sample Survey Office (Consumer Expenditure, Employment and Unemployment, Household Assets, Morbidity and Health Care);
- Annual Survey of Industries;
- Economic Outlook from the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy;
- EPW Research Foundation India Time Series; and
- District-Level Household Survey.

In addition, the library enjoys ICSSR-consortium access to J-STOR, EconLit, and ProwessIQ, and ICSSR-supported access to Indiastat.com. The Library is a member of the British Council Library and the Anna University Central Library.

In 2019–20, MIDS Library collaborated with Anna Centenary Library to digitise rare books and monographs in the MIDS library collection.

Publication

In 2019–20, the major new activities of the Publication Section were:

- Launched MIDS Research Brief, for outreach in development sector.
- Digitised all back volumes of *Review of Development and Change* journal for global dissemination via SAGE.
- Digitised MIDS working papers (from 1991) for the MIDS website.
- Increased the visibility and profile of MIDS events and publications through a new alert service ('this week @ MIDS'), two new e-channels (WhatsApp and Chennai Development Network apps), colour posters, event pomos, and other initiatives.
- Redesigned MIDS working papers and *Annual Report* and made e-editions interactive.
- The Publication Officer was a resource person in the 'Academic Writing Workshop for MPhil/PhD Scholars of Scheduled Castes' co-organised by MIDS.

16. Finances

Financial Statements

Balance Sheet as on 31 March 2020

		Source of Funds	Amount in Rs.
1.		Corpus fund	34,50,24,105
2.		Current liabilities	
	(i)	Sundry creditors	88,86,860
	(ii)	MIDS general endowment	4,06,574
	(iii)	Other current liabilities	80,40,859
		TOTAL	**36,23,58,398**

		Application of Funds	Amount in Rs.
1.		Non-current assets	
		Fixed assets	
	(i)	Computer assets	1,16,36,935
	(ii)	Library assets	4,78,06,965
	(iii)	General assets	1,00,36,378
2.		Current assets	29,28,78,121
		TOTAL	**36,23,58,398**

Income and Expenditure for the Year Ended 31 March 2020

Expenditure	Amount Rs. P.	Amount Rs. P.	Income	Amount Rs. P.	Amount Rs. P.
Salary and other allowances		5,14,85,836.46	Direct income		4,45,93,914.00
Salaries	4,44,21,788.46		Grant—ICSSR	2,38,25,000.00	
Fellowship	5,76,650.00		Grant—GOTN	1,08,02,000.00	
Project staff remuneration	64,87,398.00		Grant—ICSSR—Fellowship	5,29,500.00	
Other administrative expenses		2,05,57,851.14	Project grants	94,37,414.00	
Library	1,48,842.00		Other income		2,09,89,546.21
Research programmes	4,96,364.50		Dedicated funds	47,11,111.00	
Maintenance—Computer	6,46,534.54		SB interest	7,23,149.50	
Research publications	4,81,912.00		Interest on sweep account	15,28,411.00	
Printing & stationery	1,50,603.00		Interest on funds, FD and bonds (excl. accrual)	1,10,72,517.64	
Postage & telephone	93,511.88		Sale of discarded assets and old papers/newspapers	0.00	
Travelling expenses	3,76,383.02		Other income	29,54,357.07	
Campus maintenance	32,49,903.00		Excess of Expenditure over Income		64,60,227.39
Vehicle maintenance	1,45,820.00				
Other admn expenses	57,36,306.43				
Research project expenses	75,36,287.27				
Non-recurring expenses	3,13,096.00				
Plough back interest	11,82,287.50				
TOTAL		**7,20,43,687.60**	**TOTAL**		**7,20,43,687.60**

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